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## State Overview

**BENCHMARKED DATA**

Many of you keep a record of labor force and nonfarm data time series. Each year the employment time series is adjusted to final data gathered over the past year. This process is called benchmarking. The benchmarked nonfarm series includes final employment information for January through June. The July through December data are revised estimates based on September information. The benchmarked nonfarm data is a primary input into the labor force data, which is also benchmarked. The Boise City Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* series was also benchmarked. The benchmarked data for the state labor force can be found in Appendix A. The 2000 benchmarked annual average labor force data for the labor market areas, counties, and cities can be found in Appendix B. This information updates the annual labor force data published in the December 2000 issue of **Idaho Employment**. The benchmarked data for the state nonfarm payroll data is in Appendix C. The appendices are located after the FYI section. The statistics in State Tables 1, 2, and 3 have been benchmarked. The labor force and nonfarm data published in each area report has also been benchmarked and is available upon request.

**IDAHO UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DROPPED THREE-TENTHS IN JANUARY**

Idaho's statewide unemployment rate dropped three-tenths of a percentage point in January 2001 to 4.5 percent seasonally adjusted. January's unemployment rate is five-tenths of a percentage point below the 5.0 percent experienced one year ago. The national unemployment rate in January was 4.2 percent, up from 4.0 percent in December 2000.

The number of Idahoans unemployed in January decreased 2,100 to 29,900. The number of employed persons increased 3,100 to 638,200. The movement resulted in a *Civilian Labor Force* of 668,100 in January, up 1,000 from December 2000.

The changes from January 2000 were more dramatic. From one year ago, the number of persons employed increased 21,000 and the number of persons unemployed decreased 2,400. Overall, the labor force increased 2.9 percent, or 18,600 persons, since January 2000. Along with the low unemployment rate, the over-the-year employment growth indicates that, overall, Idaho's economy is continuing to grow. However, there are areas of the state where the economy has recently suffered some major blows. These include the announcement of impending closures of Sunshine Mine (Shoshone County), the Boise Cascade sawmills in Cascade (Valley County), and Emmett (Gem County), and the manufactured housing window firm Hehr Manufacturing (Canyon County); layoffs at Jabil (Ada County); low agricultural commodity prices; rising energy prices; and below average snow packs are a just a few of the signs indicating that Idaho's economy is vulnerable. As 2001 begins, the usual optimistic outlook is clouded. Only time will tell what the impact of these and other economic changes will have on the economy of the state as a whole, but growth is still expected.

**AREA LABOR FORCE HIGHLIGHTS**

Unemployment rates are calculated each month for eight Labor Market Areas (LMAs) in Idaho—Boise City MSA, Pocatello City MSA, Bonneville LMA, Cassia-

Minidoka LMA, Idaho-Lewis LMA, Magic Valley LMA, Panhandle LMA, and Seaport LMA. State Table 1 on pages 3 lists which counties are included in each labor market area.

The Idaho-Lewis LMA, in North Central Idaho, once again reported the highest LMA unemployment rate for the 86<sup>th</sup> consecutive month. The area's January unemployment rate stood at 9.6 percent, up one-tenth of a percentage point from December. The Panhandle's 8.3 percent rate was the highest for the LMAs with a labor force in excess of 40,000 persons. The Boise City MSA had the lowest unemployment rate, 2.7 percent.

## COUNTY LABOR FORCE

Of the 44 counties in the state, 5 had double-digit seasonally adjusted unemployment rates in January.

- Clearwater County at 16.1 percent
- Adams County at 13.7 percent
- Benewah County at 11.1 percent
- Shoshone County at 10.8 percent
- Idaho County at 10.4 percent

These five counties typically have double-digit unemployment rates and are the highest in the state. The economies of these five counties rely heavily on the natural resource based activities, including *Mining, Lumber & Wood Products*, and *Forest Service*. The percent of the non-farm employment involved in natural resource based activities for Adams, Benewah, Clearwater, and Idaho counties exceeds 20 percent. Shoshone County is close with 16 percent of its nonfarm employment involved in these activities. When so many of the workers are involved in activities that are experiencing employment decreases, it is not surprising that the counties have high unemployment rates. The employment losses as a result of the closure of the Sunshine Mine will not be reflected in Shoshone County's unemployment rate until March.

On the positive side, four counties reported an unemployment rate below 3.0 percent in January.

- Madison County at 1.9 percent
- Ada County at 2.4 percent
- Blaine County at 2.6 percent
- Teton County at 2.8 percent

These counties vary in size and economic composition. Teton County has a small population and labor force involved primarily in agriculture activities. Major economic activities in Blaine County include tourism and recreation, especially during the winter months. BYU-Idaho (formerly Ricks College), a large private college, has a major impact on the labor force in Madison County. Ada County has the state's largest population and labor force. It is also the center of state governmental activity which contributes to the low unemployment rate.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS

The number of *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* decreased in January—the fourth month in a row. During January, 18,000 jobs were lost compared to December. Normal seasonal contractions caused job losses in every major industrial group as indicated in State Table 2 on page 5. From a year ago, nonfarm employment was up 3.4 percent—18,300 new jobs.

The *Goods-Producing Industries*, which comprise 20 percent of the nonfarm jobs, lost 4,100 jobs in January from December 2000, for a 3.6 percent decline. The current level of 110,500 is above January 2000's level of 109,000. The *Service-Producing Industries*, which comprise the other 80 percent of *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs*, experienced a 3.1 percent job

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Questions and comments can be directed to Public Affairs by phoning (208) 334-6173 or by E-mail to:

**jhyer@labor.state.id.us**

Or to the Labor Market Analyst noted in each area news section.

**DIRK KEMPTHORNE, GOVERNOR**

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## IDAHO'S WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

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loss in January from December's job level. The number of jobs in these industries is at 440,900, compared to 454,800 in December 2000 and 424,100 in January 2000. The over-the-year gain in the *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* was 4.0 percent.

Of the 61 industrial categories for which employment is published, there were nine sectors that posted a gain during January—*Fabricated Metal Products; Electronic & Other Electrical Equipment & Components, except Computers; Transportation Equipment; Canned, Frozen, & Preserved Fruits and Vegetables; Other Nondurable Goods; Personal Services; Amusement and Recreation Services; and Hospitals*. Five of the nine grew by only 100 workers which could be attributed to numeric rounding more than economic growth. Thirteen industries had over the year job losses. The *Lumber & Wood Products* industries as a whole suffered significant job losses. Generally these firms are located in rural areas and are dominant industries in the local economy. Additional sawmill closures have been announced for later this year and there likely will additional job losses in *Logging*.

There is normally a decrease in the number of workers during the winter because of inclement weather, post-holiday layoffs, etc. Over that past 11 years, the number of jobs between December and January has dropped nine times and a loss of 13,000 has been the average. This year's January drop is well above that average. The primary reasons for this are declines in the wood products industries and the fact the total job base has increased, thereby making normal seasonal declines larger numerically. The industries with the major job losses were *Retail Trade, Construction, and State Government Education*. The 2,100 decline in *State Education* is due to not having work study students on the payrolls during the reference week because the state's colleges and universities were still on semester break.

Employment in the *Trade* industries showed the largest numeric loss of jobs in January, dropping from 147,700 in December to 141,500 in January. The decrease was expected as the large number of temporary employees hired for the Christmas holiday season were laid off. The job losses occurred mainly in *Retail Trade* with *General Merchandise Stores* having the most numeric decline. The loss of 1,800 jobs in *General Merchandise Stores* was a direct result of holiday layoffs. The remaining *Trade* sectors experienced seasonal losses of employment in January. Some decreases will continue until spring arrives and a new shopping season begins.

The *Construction* industry, with a loss of 3,800 jobs, was spread out through all the specific industry components. Winter weather always slows down this industry. But, a slowing population growth also results in less construction. The *Special Trade Contractors* experienced a loss of 2,200 jobs between December and January. *Construction* employment, at 31,800, is 2.6 percent above January 2000's 31,000 which shows Idaho's construction industry continues to grow. Recent

State Table 1: January 2001 Labor Force (preliminary)

Seasonally Adjusted	Labor Force	Unemp.	% Unemp.	Total Emp.
<b>Seaport LMA</b>	34,040	1,500	4.4	32,540
Nez Perce County	22,220	965	4.3	21,255
Asotin County, WA	11,815	535	4.5	11,280
<b>Boise City MSA</b>	239,990	6,430	2.7	233,560
Ada County	173,970	4,180	2.4	169,790
Canyon County	66,030	2,250	3.4	63,780
<b>Pocatello City MSA*</b>	39,940	1,770	4.4	38,170
<b>Bonneville LMA</b>	82,330	3,140	3.8	79,190
Bingham County	22,460	1,030	4.6	21,430
Bonneville County	47,670	1,600	3.4	46,070
Butte County	1,655	80	4.9	1,575
Jefferson County	10,535	425	4.0	10,110
<b>Cassia-Minidoka LMA</b>	19,530	1,340	6.9	18,190
Cassia County	9,690	640	6.6	9,050
Minidoka County	9,840	700	7.1	9,140
<b>Idaho-Lewis LMA</b>	7,710	740	9.6	6,970
Idaho County	6,190	645	10.4	5,545
Lewis County	1,515	95	6.2	1,420
<b>Panhandle LMA</b>	89,980	7,510	8.3	82,470
Benewah County	4,455	495	11.1	3,960
Bonner County	17,600	1,480	8.4	16,120
Boundary County	4,560	410	9.0	4,150
Kootenai County	56,690	4,400	7.8	52,290
Shoshone County	6,670	720	10.8	5,950
<b>Magic Valley LMA</b>	46,900	1,920	4.1	44,980
Gooding County	6,510	230	3.5	6,280
Jerome County	8,740	320	3.7	8,420
Twin Falls County	31,650	1,370	4.3	30,280
Adams County	1,630	225	13.7	1,405
Bear Lake County	2,810	130	4.7	2,680
Blaine County	11,510	300	2.6	11,210
Boise County	2,275	115	5.1	2,160
Camas County	465	25	5.1	440
Caribou County	3,095	175	5.7	2,920
Clark County	630	30	4.9	600
Clearwater County	3,910	630	16.1	3,280
Custer County	2,175	165	7.6	2,010
Elmore County	9,300	520	5.6	8,780
Franklin County	4,850	190	4.0	4,660
Fremont County	4,700	320	6.8	4,380
Gem County	6,100	320	5.2	5,780
Latah County	14,360	530	3.7	13,830
Lemhi County	3,540	320	9.0	3,220
Lincoln County	1,950	70	3.6	1,880
Madison County	11,220	210	1.9	11,010
Oneida County	1,785	55	3.1	1,730
Owyhee County	3,940	160	4.1	3,780
Payette County	10,130	630	6.2	9,500
Power County	3,690	210	5.7	3,480
Teton County	3,520	100	2.8	3,420
Valley County	4,110	300	7.3	3,810
Washington County	4,590	320	7.0	4,270
<b>State of Idaho</b>	<b>668,020</b>	<b>29,860</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>638,160</b>
<b>Idaho Cities</b>				
Boise	109,670	2,640	2.4	107,030
Coeur d'Alene	19,965	1,205	6.0	18,760
Idaho Falls	29,360	1,050	3.6	28,310
Lewiston	19,460	740	3.8	18,720
Nampa	20,060	740	3.7	19,320
Pocatello	31,080	1,270	4.1	29,810
Twin Falls	16,495	765	4.6	15,730

Federal Reserve Board action to lower interest rates, continued population growth, and infrastructure investment should mean that Idaho's *Construction* will continue to add jobs.

*Government* employment dropped 3.1 percent, or 34,00 workers, to 106,500 in January. The loss was in all levels of government—*Federal, State, & Local*. Job activity in *Federal Government* should begin to increase in March as reforestation and other spring activities start to gear up. Most of the state's colleges and universities did not start the spring semester until mid-January, thus, missing the survey week. Employment will be up to normal levels in February.

## OVER-THE-YEAR HIGHLIGHTS

Again, as with the labor force data, the over-the-year *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* changes are more dramatic. Between January 2000 and January 2001 the number of nonfarm jobs increased 3.4 percent, or 18,300 jobs. Approximately 92 percent of the growth was in the *Service-Producing Industries*. Last year at this time, the *Services-Producing Industries* accounted for 80 percent of the job growth. The percentage increase difference in broad sectorial growth is due to job losses in the *Goods-Producing Industries*, especially *Mining* and *Lumber & Wood Products*, along with continued growth in the big employment industries in the *Services-Producing Industries* category. In other words, the new job percentage pie shrunk for one of the broad measures (*Goods-Producing Industries*) while the other (*Service-Producing Industries*) continued relative robust growth.

The largest over-the-year increase was in *Services*, up 5.7 percent or 7,600 jobs. Within *Services*, the sectors reporting the largest growth were *Business Services*, up 2,700 jobs, *Health Services* up 1,700 jobs, and *Engineering, Accounting, Research, Management, & Related Services*, up 1,400 jobs. The largest contributor to the growth in *Business Services* was the addition of 1,800 jobs in employment agencies or help supply services. Even though these are very positive increases, the number of new jobs in these industries is considerably below that reported this time last year when the January 1999 to January 2000 job gains were listed.

The industrial sectors comprising *Trade* experienced the second largest job growth between January 2000 and January 2001 with a 4.9 percent increase, or 6,600 jobs. *Retail Trade* contributed 5,100 of the new jobs with the largest percentage occurring in *General Merchandise Stores*. All industries within the published *Trade* industry series, except *Automotive Dealers & Gasoline Service Stations*, posted job gains.

## 1999-2000 COMPARISON

Another way of looking at annual job count changes is to consider average annual numbers. The average annual statistic smooths out the seasonality that is

inherent in many Idaho industries. Appendix D provides a comparison of 2000 average annual job levels by industry to those of 1999.

Overall, 21,137 new nonfarm payroll jobs were added to Idaho's economy. This is a 3.9 percent increase. This growth was wide-spread throughout the industries. There are some notable exceptions. *Mining* and the *Lumber & Wood Products* industries suffered significant percentage declines and the job count level continues to drop. Although the percentage drop in *Other Nondurable Goods Manufacturing* looks large at 11.5 percent, the job loss was only 264.

Almost all of the *Services-Producing Industries* posted job gains. There were minimal numbers involved in those that had a job loss. The gains in these industries is due to continued population growth and a generally good economy. The opening of several "big box" stores around the state accounts for the increase in *General Merchandise Stores* and the continued increase in the number of temporary and contingent workers is the reason for the increase in *Business Services*. The 9.7 percent gain in *Federal Government* can be ascribed to the 2000 Census and wildfire fighting support for the large fires that occurred in 2000.

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State Table 2: Nonfarm Payroll Jobs

BY PLACE OF WORK	Jan 2001*	Dec 2000	Jan 2000	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Jobs</b>	551,400	569,400	533,100	-3.2	3.4
<b>GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b>	110,500	114,600	109,000	-3.6	1.4
<b>Mining</b>	2,300	2,500	2,300	-8.0	0.0
Metal Mining	1,200	1,200	1,300	0.0	-7.7
<b>Construction</b>	31,800	35,600	31,000	-10.7	2.6
<b>Manufacturing</b>	76,400	76,500	75,700	-0.1	0.9
Durable Goods	47,300	47,500	47,100	-0.4	0.4
Lumber & Wood Products	11,000	11,400	13,000	-3.5	-15.4
Logging	1,900	2,000	2,400	-5.0	-20.8
Sawmills & Planing Mills	4,300	4,400	4,800	-2.3	-10.4
Wood Buildings & Mobile Homes	1,000	1,100	1,400	-9.1	-28.6
Other Lumber & Wood Products	3,800	3,900	4,400	-2.6	-13.6
Stone, Clay, Glass & Concrete Products	1,400	1,500	1,300	-6.7	7.7
Fabricated Metal Products, exc. Machinery & Transportation Equip.	3,100	3,000	3,000	3.3	3.3
Industrial & Commercial Machinery & Computer Equipment	10,400	10,500	10,200	-1.0	2.0
Electronic & Other Electrical Equip. & Components, Exc., Computer	15,300	15,100	13,500	1.3	13.3
Transportation Equipment	2,300	2,200	2,400	4.5	-4.2
Other Durable Goods	3,800	3,800	3,700	0.0	2.7
Nondurable Goods	29,100	29,000	28,600	0.3	1.7
Food Processing	17,100	17,000	16,900	0.6	1.2
Canned, Frozen, & Preserved Fruits, Vegetables & Food Specialties	9,400	9,300	9,500	1.1	-1.1
Paper Products	2,200	2,200	2,200	0.0	0.0
Printing, Publishing & Allied Products	5,500	5,600	5,200	-1.8	5.8
Chemicals & Allied Products	2,300	2,300	2,300	0.0	0.0
Other Nondurable Goods	2,000	1,900	2,000	5.3	0.0
<b>SERVICE-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b>	440,900	454,800	424,100	-3.1	4.0
<b>Transportation, Communications, &amp; Utilities</b>	27,900	28,100	27,000	-0.7	3.3
Transportation	17,200	17,500	17,100	-1.7	0.6
Railroad	1,400	1,400	1,500	0.0	-6.7
Motor Freight Transportation & Warehousing	9,900	10,200	10,100	-2.9	-2.0
Communications	6,900	6,700	6,100	3.0	13.1
Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Services	3,800	3,900	3,800	-2.6	0.0
<b>Trade</b>	141,500	147,700	134,900	-4.2	4.9
Wholesale Trade	33,500	33,900	32,000	-1.2	4.7
Durable Goods	15,800	15,900	14,800	-0.6	6.8
Nondurable Goods	17,700	18,000	17,200	-1.7	2.9
Retail Trade	108,000	113,800	102,900	-5.1	5.0
Building Materials, Hardware, Garden Supply & Manuf. Home Dealers	6,000	6,500	5,800	-7.7	3.4
General Merchandise Stores	13,600	15,400	11,400	-11.7	19.3
Food Stores	19,800	20,200	19,100	-2.0	3.7
Automotive Dealers & Gasoline Service Stations	11,500	12,000	11,600	-4.2	-0.9
Eating & Drinking Places	36,900	37,800	35,700	-2.4	3.4
<b>Finance, Insurance &amp; Real Estate</b>	23,500	23,800	23,300	-1.3	0.9
Banking	7,200	7,300	7,300	-1.4	-1.4
<b>Services</b>	141,500	145,300	133,900	-2.6	5.7
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	7,500	7,800	7,700	-3.8	-2.6
Personal Services	4,500	4,300	4,300	4.7	4.7
Business Services	28,400	30,700	25,700	-7.5	10.5
Amusement and Recreation Services	6,400	6,300	6,200	1.6	3.2
Health Services	36,400	36,600	34,700	-0.5	4.9
Hospitals	11,800	11,700	11,400	0.9	3.5
Engineering, Accounting, Research, Management, & Related Services	18,200	18,500	16,800	-1.6	8.3
<b>Government</b>	106,500	109,900	105,000	-3.1	1.4
Federal Government	12,400	12,800	12,000	-3.1	3.3
State & Local Government	94,100	97,100	93,000	-3.1	1.2
State Government	26,500	28,600	27,000	-7.3	-1.9
Education	12,000	14,100	12,400	-14.9	-3.2
Administration	14,500	14,500	14,600	0.0	-0.7
Local Government	67,600	68,500	66,000	-1.3	2.4
Education	38,900	39,600	37,400	-1.8	4.0
Administration	28,700	28,900	28,600	-0.7	0.3

\*-Preliminary Estimate

2-Estimates include all full or part time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay in the following industry groups during the pay period ending nearest the 12th of the month.

DATA PREPARED IN COOPERATION WITH THE BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

MATERIAL IN THIS DOCUMENT IS PUBLIC DOMAIN AND MAY BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. HOWEVER, THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SHOULD BE CITED AS THE SOURCE.

State Table 3: Economic Indicators

State Table of Economic Indicators

	Jan 2001	Dec 2000	Jan 2000	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
IDAHO LABOR FORCE <sup>(1)</sup>					
<b>Seasonally Adjusted</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	668,100	667,100	649,500	0.1	2.9
Unemployment	29,900	32,000	32,300	-6.6	-7.4
Percent of Labor Force Unemployed	4.5	4.8	5.0		
Total Employment	638,200	635,100	617,200	0.5	3.4
<b>Unadjusted</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	658,700	664,000	640,400	-0.8	2.9
Unemployment	38,100	33,300	40,600	14.4	-6.2
Percent of Labor Force Unemployed	5.8	5.0	6.3		
Total Employment	620,600	630,700	599,800	-1.6	3.5
U. S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE <sup>(2)</sup>					
	4.2	4.0	4.0		
U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX <sup>(2)</sup>					
Urban Wage Earners & Clerical Workers (CPI-W)	171.7	170.7	165.6	0.6	3.7
All Urban Consumer (CPI-U)	175.1	174.0	168.8	0.6	3.7
AGRICULTURE					
Agriculture Employment	25,740	27,910	25,420	-7.8	1.3
Operators	9,010	9,010	9,010	0.0	0.0
Unpaid Family	350	410	350	-14.6	0.0
Hired Workers	16,380	18,490	16,060	-11.4	2.0
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
<b>Claims Activities</b>					
Initial Claims <sup>(3)</sup>	13,455	14,140	12,405	-4.8	8.5
Weeks Claimed <sup>(4)</sup>	104,480	64,072	94,366	63.1	10.7
<b>Benefit Payment Activities<sup>(5)</sup></b>					
Weeks Compensated	85,239	51,602	64,940	65.2	31.3
Total Benefit \$ Paid	18,061,455	10,635,777	12,933,108	69.8	39.7
Average Weekly Benefit Amount	\$211.89	\$206.11	\$199.15	2.8	6.4
Covered Employers	39,113	39,089	38,086	0.1	2.7
Total Benefit \$ Paid During Last 12 Months <sup>(4)</sup>	\$111,738,217	\$106,609,871	\$105,260,575	4.8	6.2

(1) Preliminary Estimate

(2) Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

(3) Includes all entitlements/programs on Intrastate and Interstate Agent, New, and Additional Claims

(4) Includes all entitlements/programs, Intrastate and Interstate Agent

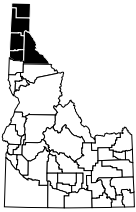
(5) Includes all entitlements/programs, Total Liable Activities

**HOURS AND EARNINGS**

	Average Weekly Earnings*			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Jan 2001	Dec 2000	Jan 2000	Jan 2001	Dec 2000	Jan 2000	Jan 2001	Dec 2000	Jan 2000
Mining	\$607.52	\$602.65	\$568.28	40.1	39.7	39.3	\$15.15	\$15.18	\$14.46
Construction	\$558.01	\$587.02	\$535.61	36.4	37.2	34.6	\$15.33	\$15.78	\$15.48
Total Manufacturing	\$554.30	\$558.09	\$566.21	38.6	39.0	40.1	\$14.36	\$14.31	\$14.12
Lumber & Wood Products	\$481.54	\$507.64	\$511.88	34.2	36.6	38.2	\$14.08	\$13.87	\$13.40
Food & Kindred Products	\$472.40	\$458.63	\$471.74	40.0	39.3	41.2	\$11.81	\$11.67	\$11.45
Communications	\$755.97	\$735.84	\$719.38	43.1	42.0	41.8	\$17.54	\$17.52	\$17.21
Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Services	\$891.92	\$914.60	\$814.86	39.8	39.8	40.5	\$22.41	\$22.98	\$20.12
Trade	\$306.88	\$316.72	\$306.13	28.6	29.6	29.1	\$10.73	\$10.70	\$10.52
Wholesale Trade	\$509.25	\$516.53	\$528.52	35.0	35.5	36.2	\$14.55	\$14.55	\$14.60
Retail Trade	\$250.58	\$263.48	\$243.63	26.8	28.0	27.1	\$9.35	\$9.41	\$8.99

DATA PREPARED IN COOPERATION WITH THE BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

\* These average earnings are computed on a gross basis and reflect changes in premium pay for overtime and late shift work as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive wage.



# PANHANDLE

BENEWAH, BONNER, BOUNDARY, KOOTENAI, & SHOSHONE COUNTIES

## LABOR FORCE & EMPLOYMENT

Despite further job losses in its important forest products and mining sectors coupled with nervousness about the national economy, the Panhandle economy continued to grow as it entered 2001. Seasonally adjusted *Total Employment* rose 0.6 percent between December and January, and rose 2.7 percent between January 2000 and January 2001. Layoffs in the *Lumber & Wood Products* industry caused the Panhandle's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate to be two-tenths of a percentage point higher in January 2001 than in January 2000. See Panhandle Table 1 for details.

The Panhandle's traditional mainstay industries endured job losses during the last half of 2000 and in the first months of 2001. *Lumber & Wood Products* employment lost 60 jobs between December and January, as low lumber prices forced some mills to lay off workers. *Lumber & Wood Products* cut 260 jobs between January 2000 and January 2001. *Mining* lost 50 jobs between December and January. In addition, these numbers do not reflect the 130 jobs lost when the Sunshine mine closed, because the closure occurred in February.

*Service-Producing Industries* added 2,010 jobs between January 2000 and January 2001. *Transportation* added 30 jobs, growing 2.2 percent between January 2000 and January 2001. In the same period, *Communication & Utilities* added 80 net jobs; the Verizon call centers in Coeur d'Alene added more than 100 jobs, while electrical, gas, and sewage utilities reduced employment slightly. *Wholesale Trade* grew 2.3 percent between January 2000 and January 2001. Job gains at wholesalers serving retail stores and restaurants more than offset job losses at implement dealerships and other wholesalers serving farmers and loggers. *Retail Trade* employment saw its normal after-

Panhandle Table 1: Labor Force & Employment

	Jan 2001*	Dec 2000	Jan 2000	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<b>Seasonally Adjusted</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	89,980	89,370	87,390	0.7	3.0
Unemployed	7,510	7,400	7,110	1.5	5.6
% of Labor Force Unemployed	8.3	8.3	8.1		
Total Employment	82,470	81,970	80,280	0.6	2.7
<b>Unadjusted</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	89,530	89,970	86,750	-0.5	3.2
Unemployed	10,030	8,110	9,330	23.7	7.5
% of Labor Force Unemployed	11.2	9.0	10.8		
Total Employment	79,500	81,860	77,420	-2.9	2.7
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**</b>	64,750	67,110	62,550	-3.5	3.5
<b>Goods-Producing Industries</b>	13,930	14,780	13,740	-5.8	1.4
Mining	960	1,010	960	-5.0	0.0
Construction	4,120	4,890	3,960	-15.7	4.0
Manufacturing	8,850	8,880	8,820	-0.3	0.3
Lumber & Wood Products	4,210	4,270	4,470	-1.4	-5.8
All Other Manufacturing	4,640	4,610	4,350	0.7	6.7
<b>Service-Producing Industries</b>	50,820	52,330	48,810	-2.9	4.1
Transportation	1,410	1,480	1,380	-4.7	2.2
Communication & Utilities	1,070	1,090	990	-1.8	8.1
Wholesale Trade	2,240	2,250	2,190	-0.4	2.3
Retail Trade	14,600	15,510	14,180	-5.9	3.0
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	2,550	2,540	2,450	0.4	4.1
Service & Miscellaneous	15,930	16,190	15,110	-1.6	5.4
Government Administration	7,680	7,750	7,380	-0.9	4.1
Government Education	5,340	5,520	5,130	-3.3	4.1
* Preliminary estimate					
**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month					

Christmas reduction in employment. Between January 2000 and January 2001, it rose 3.0 percent. *Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate* grew 4.1 percent between January 2000 and January 2001, as banks and credit unions added 40 jobs, insurance agencies added 20 jobs, and real estate developers added 40 jobs.

*Services* grew 5.4 percent, adding 820 jobs, between January 2000 and January 2001. Tourist-related facilities, led by the tribal casinos and hotels in Worley and Bonners Ferry, added about 200 jobs between January 2000 and January 2001. The 2000-2001 winter tourist season has thus far kept up with the record-setting 1999-2000 winter tourist season. Private health care providers added 290 jobs to *Services* between January 2000 and January 2001, while community hospitals added 90 jobs to *Government Administration*. For the first time in eight years, temporary staffing agencies were not a source of new jobs. Panhandle manufacturers' first response to the national downturn in manufacturing was to cut temporary jobs.



## AREA DEVELOPMENTS

### Bonner County

- Coldwater Creek, the Sandpoint-based catalog company, eliminated 50 positions at its distribution center near Sandpoint and another 50 positions at its Coeur d'Alene call center in February. These permanent cut-backs were in addition to the seasonal layoffs Coldwater normally makes after Christmas. Like many other national retailers, Coldwater found U.S. consumers unwilling to make purchases in January and February. The resulting low sales for its spring catalog forced Coldwater to reduce staff.

### Kootenai County

- Ground Force Manufacturing LLC, a Seattle-based heavy equipment company, recently acquired Aresco, a Post Falls manufacturer that was close to shutting down. Like Aresco, Ground Force Manufacturing makes machinery used in mining. Ground Force currently employs 36 people in Post Falls. It soon will hire 10 or 15 more people. Ground Force plans to expand its Post Falls employment to more than 100 workers over the next five years. At Post Falls, Ground Force adds specialized equipment for mixing and delivering explosives, fire suppression, lubrication, and other purposes to large truck frames.
- Silverwood Theme Park plans to open the Northwest's largest water park in 2002. The 25-acre water park will feature water slides, a wave pool where people can body surf, a sandy beach, a continuous "lazy river" loop for inner-tubing, hot springs, and waterfalls. The water park would make Silverwood a two- or three-day destination for tourists. Currently, the park can host up to 10,000 people a day. The addition of the water park would allow it to host an additional 5,000 people a day.
- Silverwood will continue to expand and improve the original park. When it opens in May for Summer 2001, it will introduce a new magic show and add more ice-skating. In addition, visitors will encounter roving magicians, mimes and jugglers. In the next two years, the theme park plans to build another large wooden roller coaster.
- The Coeur d'Alene Tribe quietly opened its 94-room motel next to its casino near Worley in late December, and then celebrated its grand opening two months later. The grand opening also previewed future developments at the casino, including next year's \$8 million addition of 72 rooms to the hotel.
- The tribe will break ground this spring on a \$10 million project to build indoor and outdoor event arenas. The indoor arena will be just east of the casino. The outdoor arena, which will host rodeos and powwows,

will be located across U.S. 95 from the casino. The tribe is also building a \$7 million, 18-hole golf course directly behind the casino. It probably will open the driving range and three-hole practice course later this year and will open the full 18-hole course in early 2002. The golf course, set in the woods, will use the natural setting as part of the golfing experience. Other projects on the tribe's drawing board include an RV park with space for more than 100 RVs, a theme park, and a passenger train between Spokane and the casino.

- Kynrede Café, a 35-seat restaurant serving home-style cooking, recently opened in a restored 1920s house at 9551 Government Way in Hayden.

### Shoshone County

- Smelterville recently earned the designation of a Gem Community. The Idaho Department of Commerce awards the designation to Idaho communities that go through a vigorous economic planning process involving the whole community. A key element of Smelterville's plan is to develop a greenbelt and parks and to improve sewers and roads. Created in 1903, the city lies six miles west of Kellogg along Interstate 90 and has a population of 450 residents.
- Smelterville is also the home of the new Silver Valley Industrial Park, whose first building soon will be under construction. PBI Construction, of Spokane, will break ground in the next few weeks on the \$1 million, 14,000-square-foot facility. The park's first tenant will be a Tele-Servicing Innovation (TSI) call center that will employ more than 100 people. While waiting for its new building, TSI is leasing quarters in Coeur d'Alene and employs 40 Silver Valley residents, whom TSI buses to Coeur d'Alene.

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# SEAPORT

NORTH CENTRAL IDAHO: CLEARWATER, IDAHO, LATAH, LEWIS, & NEZ PERCE COUNTIES

## LABOR FORCE & EMPLOYMENT

As shown in Seaport Table 1, the Seaport Labor Market Area seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for January decreased to 4.4 percent from December's rate of 4.6 percent. In January 2000, the rate was 3.7 percent. Total employment in January decreased by 490 jobs, pushing employment in Nez Perce and Asotin counties below the 2000 monthly average of 33,004. Two situations that usually decrease employment in January are reductions in staff after the holiday season, and the slowdown of outdoor work because of bad weather. You would expect that unemployment would increase when employment drops. However, the number of unemployed also decreased in January, creating a decline in the unemployment rate. The *Civilian Labor Force*, which is the total of those employed and unemployed, decreased by 580. This suggests that, at least in January, the labor force and the economy tightened.

In January, Seaport's *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* decreased by 380 from December 2000, and from January 2000 decreased 260. The decrease from December was expected and follows trends for December to January data. The decrease from January of last year continues a trend of decreasing employment from last year. Monthly decreases from last year started in February 2000 and have continued every month since. Usually, in the situation of monthly decreases, an industry or two can be pinpointed as the cause. However, in this case, all industries decreased. This suggests a market decrease. With employment diminishing in neighboring communities, the Lewiston/Clarkston market is feeling the pinch.

## SPECIAL TOPIC: LABOR FORCE

In the December 2000 issue of this newsletter, we analyzed labor force data for 2000 and 1999. At the time of publication we projected 2000 data. Since then we've finalized data for 2000, which we have included in Seaport Table 2. A short updated analysis by county is included below.

**Clearwater County:** The *Civilian Labor Force* decreased in 2000, but the full impact of the closure of the Jaype Mill in Pierce will not show up in the labor force numbers until 2001. Because of the closure and the elimination of 225 high paying jobs, the unemployment rate in 2001 for the county is expected to climb to about 20 percent. In 2000, Clearwater County had the highest unemployment rate among the 44 counties in the state, at 14.3 percent. Em-

Seaport Table 1: Labor Force & Employment  
Nez Perce County, Idaho, and Asotin County, Washington

	Jan 2001*	Dec 2000	Jan 2000	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
<b>INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE</b>					
<b>Seasonally Adjusted</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	34,040	34,620	34,770	-1.7	-2.1
Unemployment	1,500	1,590	1,270	-5.7	18.1
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.4	4.6	3.7		
Total Employment	32,540	33,030	33,500	-1.5	-2.9
<b>Unadjusted</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	34,870	34,700	35,100	0.5	-0.7
Unemployment	1,990	1,660	1,670	19.9	19.2
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.7	4.8	4.8		
Total Employment	32,880	33,040	33,430	-0.5	-1.6
<b>JOB BY PLACE OF WORK</b>					
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**</b>	25,220	25,600	25,480	-1.5	-1.0
<b>Goods-Producing Industries</b>	5,090	5,050	5,280	0.8	-3.6
Mining & Construction	1,140	1,190	1,160	-4.2	-1.7
Manufacturing	3,950	3,860	4,120	2.3	-4.1
Food Processing	80	70	140	14.3	-42.9
Lumber & Wood Products	710	730	800	-2.7	-11.3
Paper Products	1,750	1,740	1,830	0.6	-4.4
All Other Manufacturing	1,410	1,320	1,350	6.8	4.4
<b>Service-Producing Industries</b>	20,130	20,540	20,200	-2.0	-0.3
Transportation	1,350	1,350	1,320	0.0	2.3
Communications & Utilities	270	280	290	-3.6	-6.9
Wholesale Trade	1,010	1,030	960	-1.9	5.2
Retail Trade	5,130	5,340	5,180	-3.9	-1.0
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	1,410	1,400	1,440	0.7	-2.1
Services	6,840	6,810	6,860	0.4	-0.3
Government Administration	1,860	1,850	1,760	0.5	5.7
Government Education	2,260	2,480	2,390	-8.9	-5.4
*Preliminary Estimate					
**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month					

ployment decreases indicate business is suffering from cutbacks in lumber manufacturing and the U.S. Forest Service, both major employment sectors.

**Idaho County:** Total employment decreased in 2000, by 113 from 1999. Idaho County's economy has lost over 450 jobs from the 1994 record of 5,941. In addition to losses in lumber manufacturing, jobs in *Government* decreased because of cutbacks at the U.S. Forest Service. In *Agriculture*, a major industry, the number of jobs is just one-third of what it was 20 years ago.

**Latah County:** Unemployment increased in Latah County but it still has one of the lowest unemployment rates in Idaho at 3.4 percent. Employment peaked at 15,707 in 1995 because of growth in *Trade* and *Services*. However, since 1995, employment has decreased 9.3 percent. A significant economic indicator for Latah County is the size of the student population at the University of Idaho. Student enrollment is expected to increase through the year 2001. As a consequence, employment at the U of I is expected to increase one percent in 2001.

**Lewis County:** Total employment in 2000 decreased from 1999. Employment peaked in 1996 at 1,534 because of increases in *Construction*. *Construction* increased because low land prices allowed people to build houses in Lewis County and commute to work in Lewiston. However, since 1996, employment has decreased 9.2 percent.

Seaport Table 2: 2000 Labor Force Data for Seaport LMA

<b>Latah County</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Civilian Labor Force	14,987	15,164	177	1.2
Unemployment	492	523	31	6.3
Percent Unemployment	3.3	3.4		
Total Employment	14,495	14,641	146	1.0
<b>Lewis County</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Civilian Labor Force	1,560	1,524	-36	-2.3
Unemployment	104	117	13	12.5
Percent Unemployment	6.7	7.7		
Total Employment	1,456	1,407	-49	-3.4
<b>Nez Perce &amp; Asotin Counties</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Civilian Labor Force	35,456	34,487	-969	-2.7
Unemployment	1,337	1,483	146	10.9
Percent Unemployment	3.8	4.3		
Total Employment	34,119	33,004	-1,115	-3.3

**Nez Perce & Asotin Counties (Seaport):** In Nez Perce and Asotin counties, the *Civilian Labor Force* decreased 2.7 percent in 2000. Total employment decreased 1,115, which increased the unemployment rate in 2000 to 4.3 percent. Nez Perce/Asotin Counties are the perennial growth center of North Central Idaho. There is concern for the economy of North Central Idaho because of recent increases in the unemployment rate.

## AREA DEVELOPMENTS

North Central Idaho and Clarkston residents could have improved telecommunications services because of the pending sale of local Qwest Communication's exchanges to Citizens Communications. The Idaho Public Utilities Commission is considering requiring a fiber optics line to be constructed throughout North Central Idaho, with part of \$12.4 million Qwest has to pay to benefit rate payers as terms of the sale. About \$7.5 million has already been earmarked to replace an analog telephone switch in Lewiston with a digital one. In addition, Citizens Communications has pledged to spend \$27 million in the first three years of operations to make service better and to introduce new products. Citizens Communications is expected to take control of local phone connections in Clarkston, Lewiston, Grangeville, Cottonwood, Craigmont, Kamiah, Kooskia, Lapwai and Nez Perce in July.

### Idaho & Lewis County

- A mine and a gravel bar excavation for gold are being proposed along the Salmon River. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality are evaluating proposals to excavate near Riggins on the Salmon River.

### Latah County

- Officials at Bennett Lumber have warned employees that large electric rate increases could force a suspension of work at mills in Princeton and Clarkston. Because of the proximity to the Princeton mill, the communities of Potlatch and Harvard would be hit hard economically by the suspension of the area's largest employer.
- Moscow city developers are looking at the industrial area at the south end of the city for development. But exactly what to do with the stretch of property between Henley Street and

Highway 8 along U.S. Highway 95, dubbed the "blighted zone," is still under debate. Private developers have talked about cleaning up the area by building a hotel/convention center.

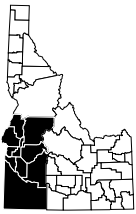
- A vintage courthouse table is the centerpiece for a new coffeehouse and pub in downtown Moscow. Bucer's is styled after a European café where people can go to relax, sit and converse.

### Nez Perce and Asotin (WA) Counties

- Lewiston has been given permission to use the federal grant that was awarded for a business-technology park despite loss of the anchor tenant. The city of Lewiston will go ahead with construction of a business and technology park even though the anchor tenant, Convergys, has dropped out. According to Lewiston Mayor, Jeff Nasset, "We have learned from three prospective new employers that we must address the infrastructure needs and shorten the time it takes for a new company to get operational before business conditions change."
- The Clearwater Lumber Mill at Potlatch Corporation in Lewiston closed temporarily in February, leaving more than 300 Potlatch employees without pay for at least two weeks. The Lewiston mill produces boards, dimension lumber and cedar specialties. The only department that remained open is shipping, so that Potlatch's customers could continue to purchase products. Potlatch also has been facing high electricity costs. Prices have remained at levels similar to or higher than they were in December when Potlatch closed parts of the plant for four days.

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# TREASURE VALLEY

ADA, ADAMS, BOISE, CANYON, ELMORE, GEM, OWYHEE, PAYETTE, VALLEY, & WASHINGTON COUNTIES

## LABOR FORCE & EMPLOYMENT

The Boise City Metropolitan Statistical Area's (MSA) seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for January 2001 was 2.7 percent, as shown in Treasure Valley Table 1. This rate is down four-tenths of a percentage point from December's rate of 3.1 percent and down seven-tenths of a percentage point from January 2000's rate of 3.4 percent. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for all counties in Southwest Idaho for January 2001 are as follows: Ada County 2.4 percent, Adams County 13.7 percent, Boise County 5.1 percent, Canyon County 3.4 percent, Elmore County 5.6 percent, Gem County 5.2 percent, Owyhee County 4.0 percent, Payette County 6.2 percent, Valley County 7.3 percent, and Washington County 7.0 percent.

The Boise City MSA *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* decreased by 4,900 jobs from 229,500 jobs in December 2000 to 224,600 jobs in January 2001. *Goods-Producing Industries* lost 1,000 jobs over the month but gained 1,800 jobs over the year. Decreases in *Construction & Mining*, *Lumber & Wood Products Manufacturing*, *Industrial & Commercial Machinery & Computer Equipment Manufacturing*, and *Other Nondurable Goods Manufacturing* outpaced job growth in *Electronic & Other Electronic Equipment & Component Manufacturing* to create an overall job loss for the month. The largest loss was noted in *Heavy Construction* and *Special Trade Construction*. Since January 2000, the largest job gains were noted in *Electronic & Other Electronic Equipment & Components Manufacturing* with a 10.3 percent increase or 1,200 jobs while the largest decrease was in *Wood Buildings & Mobile Home Manufacturing* with a loss of 300 jobs or 30 percent. All *Lumber & Wood Products Manufacturing* has been slowing down since mid-2000 with a falling demand for these products causing the shift.

*Service-Producing Industries* lost 3,900 jobs from December 2000 to

Treasure Valley Table 1: Boise MSA Labor Force & Employment (Ada and Canyon counties)

	Jan 2001*	Dec 2000	Jan 2000	% Change Last Month	% Change Last Year
<b>INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE</b>					
<b>Seasonally Adjusted</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	240,000	239,400	229,000	0.3	4.8
Unemployment	6,400	7,500	7,800	-14.7	-17.9
% of Labor Force Unemployed	2.7	3.1	3.4		
Total Employment	233,600	231,900	221,200	0.7	5.6
<b>Unadjusted</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	238,700	241,600	228,300	-1.2	4.6
Unemployment	8,400	7,600	10,100	10.5	-16.8
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.5	3.1	4.4		
Total Employment	230,300	234,000	218,200	-1.6	5.5
<b>JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK</b>					
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**</b>	224,600	229,500	211,400	-2.1	6.2
<b>GOODS-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b>	52,800	53,800	51,000	-1.9	3.5
<b>Mining &amp; Construction</b>	15,400	16,300	14,600	-5.5	5.5
<b>Manufacturing</b>	37,400	37,500	36,400	-0.3	2.7
Durable Goods	28,900	28,900	28,000	0.0	3.2
Lumber & Wood Products	3,100	3,200	3,500	-3.1	-11.4
Wood Buildings & Mobile Homes	700	800	1,000	-12.5	-30.0
Other Lumber & Wood Products	2,400	2,400	2,500	0.0	-4.0
Fabricated Metal Products	1,200	1,200	1,300	0.0	-7.7
Ind. & Comm. Mach. & Computer Equip.	8,200	8,300	7,800	-1.2	5.1
Electronic & Other Elect. Equip. & Comp.	12,800	12,600	11,600	1.6	10.3
Transportation Equipment	1,700	1,700	1,900	0.0	-10.5
Other Durable Goods	1,900	1,900	1,900	0.0	0.0
Nondurable Goods	8,500	8,600	8,400	-1.2	1.2
Food Products	5,700	5,700	5,700	0.0	0.0
Canned Cured & Frozen Foods	1,700	1,700	1,800	0.0	-5.6
Printing, Pub & Allied Products	2,000	2,000	1,900	0.0	5.3
Other Nondurable Goods	800	900	800	-11.1	0.0
<b>SERVICE-PRODUCING INDUSTRIES</b>	171,800	175,700	160,400	-2.2	7.1
<b>Trans, Comm, &amp; Public Util</b>	12,100	12,400	11,200	-2.4	8.0
Transportation	6,800	6,900	6,200	-1.4	9.7
Comm & Elec, Gas & Sanitary Services	5,300	5,500	5,000	-3.6	6.0
<b>Trade</b>	56,100	58,200	52,000	-3.6	7.9
Wholesale Trade	13,900	13,800	12,800	0.7	8.6
Durable Goods	8,500	8,400	7,700	1.2	10.4
Nondurable Goods	5,400	5,400	5,100	0.0	5.9
Retail Trade	42,200	44,400	39,200	-5.0	7.7
General Merchandise Stores	5,500	6,300	4,300	-12.7	27.9
Foods Stores	7,800	7,900	7,600	-1.3	2.6
Eating & Drinking Places	14,300	14,900	13,800	-4.0	3.6
Other Retail Trade	14,600	15,300	13,500	-4.6	8.1
<b>Finance, Insurance, &amp; Real Estate</b>	11,100	11,200	11,100	-0.9	0.0
<b>Services</b>	58,800	59,100	54,200	-0.5	8.5
Business Services	14,900	14,900	13,700	0.0	8.8
Health Services	17,000	16,800	15,800	1.2	7.6
Hospitals	7,800	7,700	7,200	1.3	8.3
Eng., Acct., Res., Mngmt., & Related	4,700	4,600	4,200	2.2	11.9
Other Services	22,200	22,800	20,500	-2.6	8.3
<b>Government</b>	33,700	34,800	31,900	-3.2	5.6
Federal Government	4,900	5,100	4,900	-3.9	0.0
State Government	12,300	13,000	11,300	-5.4	8.8
Education	4,000	4,700	3,300	-14.9	21.2
Administration	8,300	8,300	8,000	0.0	3.8
Local Government	16,500	16,700	15,700	-1.2	5.1
Education	11,000	11,100	10,500	-0.9	4.8
Administration	5,500	5,600	5,200	-1.8	5.8

\*\*Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

January 2001, but gained 11,400 jobs since January 2000. The majority of losses were noted in *Retail Trade*, where 2,200 jobs were lost over the month primarily due to layoffs that typically occur after the holiday season in these establishments. The only industries to experience job gains over the month were *Wholesale Trade*, *Health Services*, and *Engineering, Accounting, Management, & Related Services*.

## AREA DEVELOPMENTS

### Boise City MSA

- Ida-West Energy Company announced in early February that a new 250-megawatt plant would be built about 1.5 miles south of Middleton. The site was chosen to house the new
- \$200 million natural-gas turbine power plant that is needed to keep us away from the energy shortages that are now plaguing California. Sources at Idaho Power say that the plant needs to be running by 2004, and the plant could serve the annual electricity needs of a community the size of Nampa, Caldwell, and Meridian combined. The Garnet Energy Facility will sit on 10 of a possible 30 acres that would allow an expansion in the future if Idaho should experience another power shortage. Once operational, the plant will employ 20 full-time employees.
- Philip Anschutz, a Denver billionaire, will purchase the Edwards Theatre chain. The company filed for bankruptcy protection last year and closed a few under-performing theaters. The sale to Anschutz and a venture capital fund will allow the company to keep remaining theaters open and retain current employees.
- The Hilton Garden Inn is being planned south of the Boise Spectrum near Overland and Cole Roads in Boise. The \$5 to \$6 million project was submitted to the Boise Planning & Zoning Commission, and if approved, the 88,000 square-foot facility will occupy four stories. The hotel would be focused towards business travelers. The Hilton Garden Inn would employ 30 when fully operational.
- Loews Cineplex Odeon closed its remaining three theaters in the Treasure Valley in mid-February, after filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. The Northgate Cinemas, the Towne Square Cinemas, and the Nampa Cinemas closed, along with 19 others in ten other states. The company closed the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Marketplace Cinema located in downtown Boise earlier in the year.
- In late February, Fred Meyer opened its newest store on Federal Way. The 165,000 square-foot store is the fifth outlet in the Treasure Valley for the Portland-based chain. The store on Federal Way is the first in the Treasure Valley to have a Starbucks coffee bar, a cooking-demonstration kitchen, and an outdoor greenhouse. The store employs about 230 people.
- Wal-Mart opened its latest supercenter in Meridian. This marks the third Supercenter to open within a year in the Treasure Valley, with one opening in both Nampa and Caldwell last July. The new Meridian store is located at 4051 E. Fairview Avenue. The new outlet will employ almost 500 people.
- The Sonic Drive-In opened in Boise in late February. The drive-in is located at 8777 W. Overland Road (west of Cole), and is Idaho's first Sonic drive-in. The franchise is America's largest chain of drive-in fast-food restaurants with more than 2,200 drive-ins spanning 28 states.
- Western Electronics opened its new \$4.7 million, 100,000 square-foot manufacturing facility in Meridian in early February. The company currently employs 120 people at its Meridian location and more than 500 throughout the entire company. The company also recently acquired Delta Engineering and Manufacturing Corporation, which specializes in sheet-metal fabrication and electronic assembly. The new company will be known as Western Electronics, Delta Corporation.
- In mid-February, Micronpc.com laid off 25 employees in Meridian that were largely a segment of the company's customer-service operations specifically supporting its consumer and retail-direct businesses. The layoffs occurred as a result of market conditions in the PC industry.
- Hewlett Packard announced the release of two new software products to help companies develop their businesses for the next-generation Internet. The OpenView software suite will help customers with their e-services; and Netaction suite will allow customers to develop, integrate, and launch their e-service businesses. Analysts agree that the announcement is positive for Hewlett Packard, and furthers HP's vision regarding software. The new software will allow the company to compete in the e-services industry.
- Micron Technology, Inc. introduced a new low power memory solution that will extend battery life in many mobile and wireless applications. Micron's new BAT-RAMs are designed to consume less power than the standard SDRAMs.
- Micronpc.com and Intel are working together in creating a new line of wireless networking solutions. The new wireless solution combines Micron's TransPort line of notebook computers and Intel's high-performance wireless LAN products to deliver tailored

solutions to each business. For more information, visit [www.micronpc.com](http://www.micronpc.com).

- Plans for the second phase of construction at Canyon Park, near the Idaho Center, have been announced. The new building will be 26,000 square feet and will be designed similar to the Premier Building in that it is meant to be a one stop center for professional services; it will be located on the east side of the Premier Building. Construction should begin in late spring.
- The Caldwell Cancer Treatment Center held its grand opening in early February. The center, a joint venture between Saint Alphonsus Regional and West Valley medical centers, is located on Commercial Way. The cancer center offers the most technologically advanced radiation treatment in the state. There is a staff of fifteen and patients will be treated mostly on an outpatient basis.
- The First Security Bank in Nampa that was closed as a result of the merger between First Security and Wells Fargo has become a Mountain West Bank. Mountain West Bank's parent company, Glacier Bancorp purchased this, as well as two Boise Wells Fargo Branches, in September 2000.
- Quality Properties Development is developing a new office building on the corner of Garrity Boulevard and Flamingo Avenue. The North Ridge Professional Center will contain a 20,000 square-foot, three-story office building, a Phillips 66 convenience store, and a McDonalds will also be built on the site. Sage Construction of Caldwell hopes to start construction on the building in June, and it should be complete by the end of the year.
- In late January, Northwest Staffing Resources held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for its new office. The new office is located at 6013 E. Cleveland Boulevard, Suite A in Caldwell.
- The Canyon County Sheriff's and Caldwell Police Departments are now under one roof, operating jointly out of the county courthouse. The move occurred in late February, when both offices moved to a single location and combined dispatch offices. The consolidation of the two dispatch centers will mean quicker, more efficient services, as well as a savings to the taxpayer because the services will not have duplication of either equipment or manpower. The center will have 18 dispatchers, when all positions are filled.

## **Elmore County**

- Three Springs, Inc. (TSI) was issued a "letter of intent to award a contract" for a 60-bed residential correctional facility for the treatment of juvenile sex offenders. The facility will be located on Industrial Way in Mountain Home. Construction will begin this spring

and should be complete by December 2001. TSI will employ approximately 60 employees and the facility will rely on area businesses for supplies and equipment.

## **Gem County**

- Boise Cascade announced the permanent layoff of 275 employees at the Emmett plant. The company cited former President Clinton's roadless and wilderness protection policies as primary reasons federal timber has become less available over the last five years, which has decreased the available lumber supply and sales have gone down. Positions will be lost in plywood, lumber, dry kiln, planers, premier lumber, and the cogeneration plant. The laminated beam operation will continue to operate in Emmett with 33 employees. The plywood and lumber operations should last until June, with other departments working up to a month longer, until the inventory runs out. The City of Emmett, Gem County, Idaho Departments of Labor and Commerce, the Governor's Office, and Boise Cascade officials are working together to make the transition a little easier on the workers, as well as attract new businesses to the area to fill the void that the loss of this many jobs could create.

## **Valley County**

- Boise Cascade announced the permanent closure of its sawmill located in Cascade. The closure will affect 80 employees who currently work at the sawmill. Rapid Response Teams were sent to Cascade to help the mill workers and their families after the news came out regarding the closure of the mill. State departments of commerce and labor are represented on these teams as well as Boise State University representatives and the AFL-CIO. Governor Kempthorne, the Idaho Commerce and Labor Departments, Valley County Commissioners, and Cascade city officials will work together to create long term economic development solutions for the area, which may include infrastructure improvements and an economic development person in the town.

## **Washington County**

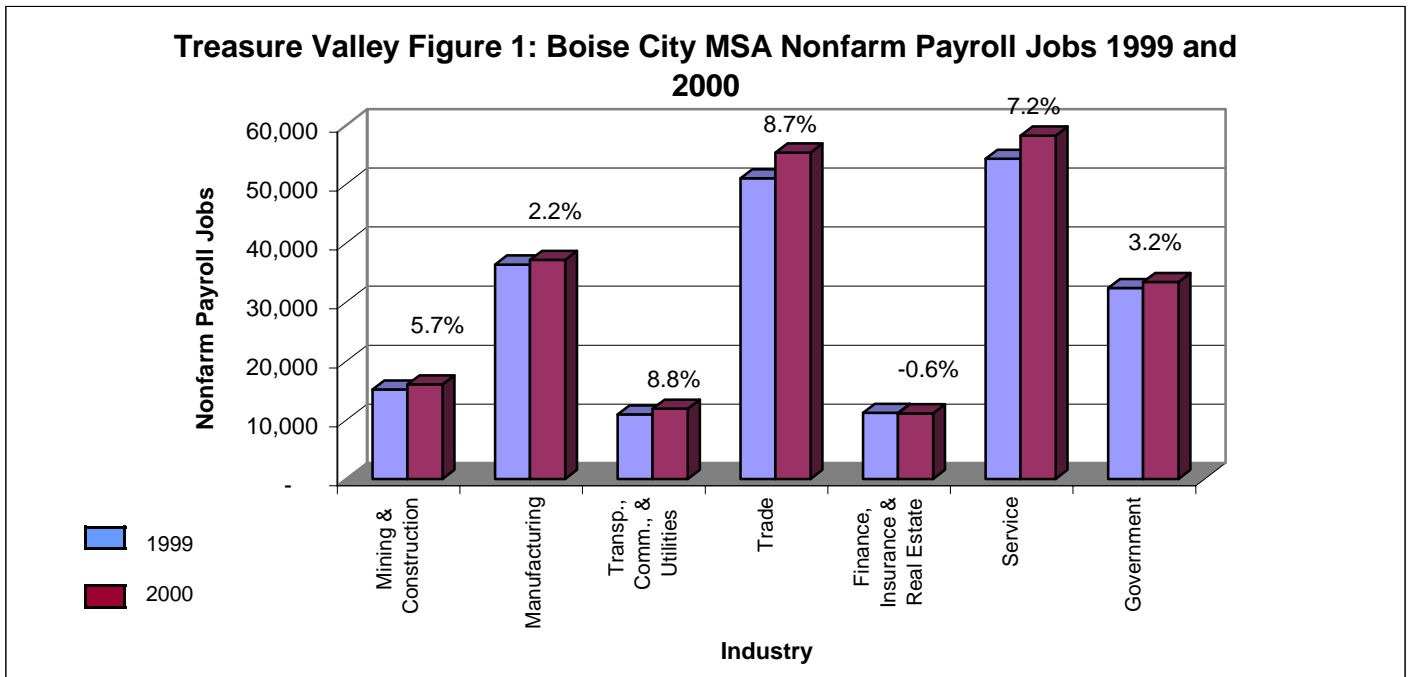
- Don Young Construction of Kuna was awarded the contract to build the Vendome Events Center in downtown Weiser. The new 14,000 square-foot facility will be built for a total cost of \$1,207,090. Once the project documents are finalized, the center will be completed in 255 calendar days, according to the construction contract.

## **SPECIAL TOPIC:**

### **2000 NONFARM EMPLOYMENT**

The Average Annual Nonfarm Employment in the Boise City MSA went up 5.6 percent from 1999. There

was an average annual increase of 11,918 jobs added over the year. Treasure Valley Figure 1 shows the average annual increase or decrease (and the percent change) from 1999 to 2000 in certain industries. The majority of all new jobs were created in *Service-Producing Industries* with an increase of 10,260 jobs. Job growth in *Construction, Fabricated Metals, Industrial Machinery & Computers, Electrical Equipment & Component, and All Other Construction* outpaced job losses in *Food & Kindred Products, Lumber & Wood Products, and Transportation Equipment Manufacturing, in Goods-Producing Industries. In Service-Producing Industries*, job losses only occurred in *Finance, Insurance & Real Estate, and Government Administration*, with all other industrial sectors gaining employment over the year. The average annual growth rate of 5.6 for the Boise City MSA is fairly high in comparison to the national average of 2.1 percent growth.



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# MAGIC VALLEY

BLAINE, CAMAS, CASSIA, GOODING, JEROME, LINCOLN, MINIDOKA, & TWIN FALLS COUNTIES

## LABOR FORCE & EMPLOYMENT

As seen in Magic Valley Table 1, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Magic Valley Labor Market Area was 4.1 percent in January 2001. This rate is two-tenths of a percentage point lower than December 2000 and three-tenths of a percentage point lower than January 2000. There was the expected post-holiday drop off in *Retail, Services, and Wholesale Trade*, and these sectors showed decreases in employment of 4.1 percent, and 2.2 percent, respectively. *Mining & Construction* also showed a decrease from December to January because very cold weather halted projects. *Food Processing* continued to be strong and this had a stabilizing effect on the overall employment picture. There are unmistakable signs of economic cooling in the Magic Valley, but unemployment remains low and employment levels remain stable.

## AREA DEVELOPMENTS

### Twin Falls County

- The United Way of South Central Idaho has surpassed a standing fund-raising goal for the first time this year. Magic Valley communities donated a record \$418,000 to the United Way's 2000-2001 campaign drive, surpassing the \$400,000 goal set three years ago. Contributions topped last year's total of \$355,000 by more than 17 percent. Eighty percent of the money raised comes from workplace campaigns and corporate donations. More than 45 employers conducted employee campaigns this year. The United Way annual fund-raising drive will benefit more than 20 organizations and charities, such as the Boys & Girls Club of Magic Valley and the American Red Cross.
- The U.S. Postal Service has announced that it will close a remote encoding center in Twin Falls in August 2001. The center employs 105 persons. The closure is the result of

Magic Valley Table 1: Labor Force & Employment  
Twin Falls, Jerome, and Gooding counties

	Jan 2001*	Dec 2000	Jan 2000	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<b>Seasonally Adjusted</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	46,890	50,410	47,710	-7.0	-1.7
Unemployment	1,920	2,190	2,100	-12.3	-8.6
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.1	4.3	4.4		
Total Employment	44,970	48,220	45,610	-6.7	-1.4
<b>Unadjusted</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	45,130	49,310	45,960	-8.5	-1.8
Unemployment	2,390	2,270	2,590	5.3	-7.7
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.3	4.6	5.6		
Total Employment	42,740	47,040	43,370	-9.1	-1.5
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**</b>					
<b>Goods-Producing Industries</b>	6,880	7,170	6,670	-4.0	3.1
Mining & Construction	1,750	2,050	1,800	-14.6	-2.8
Manufacturing	5,130	5,120	4,870	0.2	5.3
Durable Goods	770	770	850	0.0	-9.4
Nondurable Goods	4,360	4,350	4,020	0.2	8.5
Food Processing	3,350	3,360	3,020	-0.3	10.9
All Other Nondurable Goods	1,010	990	1,000	2.0	1.0
<b>Service-Producing Industries</b>	29,760	29,730	28,930	0.1	2.9
Transportation, Comm., & Utilities	3,000	3,060	2,850	-2.0	5.3
Wholesale Trade	2,210	2,260	2,260	-2.2	-2.2
Retail Trade	7,520	7,840	7,900	-4.1	-4.8
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	1,340	1,370	1,360	-2.2	-1.5
Services	8,300	8,510	7,740	-2.5	7.2
Government Administration	3,680	3,730	3,420	-1.3	7.6
Government Education	2,910	2,960	3,400	-1.7	-14.4

\*Preliminary Estimate

\*\*Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

new technology that has reduced the need for manual processing of hand-written and poorly printed addresses. Under the terms of the Postal Service's labor contract, career employees will be offered employment in other postal facilities. The Twin Falls center opened in 1992, operated by a private contractor, and the Postal Service took over operations in 1996.

- Idaho Home Health and Hospice is building a new 13,000-square foot headquarters office at 826 Eastland Drive in Twin Falls. Upon completion of construction, it will vacate its lease spaces in downtown Twin Falls.
- Four more employers have adopted employee drug screening policies to join the growing number of local businesses in the Magic Valley Drug-Free Workplace Project. The newest members are McDonald InsurServ, Twin Falls School District 411, Lance Clow's American Express Financial Advisors, and Renaldi Construction, all from Twin Falls. They join a



growing list of businesses that have taken a stand against drugs in the workplace by signing onto the project, which is a valley-wide effort to publicly recognize companies that have a drug-free workplace meeting the criteria established by the U.S. Department of Labor.

- The Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce gave the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Curtis T. Eaton award for business excellence to the T.W. Stivers family and Todd Blass of TitleFact, Inc. The award commemorates the standard for business and community leadership set by the late Curtis T. Eaton of Twin Falls Bank & Trust. Criteria include business practices, support for unique community activities, encouragement of employees' community involvement, leadership on important issue, and at least 10 years in business. TitleFact is a family firm owned by the T.W. Stivers family. T.W. Stivers is a former Speaker of the House in the Idaho Legislature. The award commends 38 years of involvement by TitleFact in the local chamber, the local library foundation, Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, Twin Falls' planning and zoning, the College of Southern Idaho, and local and statewide politics.
- Qwest Communications International, Inc., the broadband Internet communications company that offers local telephone service in much of the Magic Valley, announced the launch of its all-digital wireless voice and data service in Twin Falls and Pocatello. Qwest will integrate wireless voice and data functionality with typical office or home telephone service, paging and Internet browsing, and e-mail and information streaming services previously accessible by office or home PC.

#### **Jerome, Lincoln, Gooding, Blaine, and Camas Counties**

- Lincoln County has organized a new Lincoln County Chamber of Commerce to help promote countywide issues. The new Chamber replaces the old Shoshone Chamber of Commerce. The name was changed so that people from Richfield and Dietrich would be included and could identify with chamber activities. Initial response has been excellent and nearly 30 persons attended the organizational meeting. Many ideas were presented for fostering county friendships, neighborhood gatherings, and both fun and informative programs.
- The Sun Valley Company has hired approximately 380 of its 1,500 workers from foreign countries this year. The workers come from over a dozen countries in Europe, Latin America, Asia, Australia, and New Zealand. The workers remain in Sun Valley for periods of anywhere from two to eighteen months. To hire internationals, the Sun Valley Company must go through

immigration procedures and job postings to give preference to U.S. citizens, and then foreign applicants are interviewed by telephone and approved for work in Sun Valley by their countries. Many of the international workers are college students, usually studying for careers in the hospitality industry. They must be able to speak English, however, they do wear a brass nameplate with their name and country of origin that provides guests with a flavor for the international atmosphere. Dozens of jobs are involved including ski lift operations, hotel housekeeping, dining room attendants, reservations and guest services, kitchens, executive offices, and maintenance shops.

#### **Cassia and Minidoka Counties**

- Mini-Cassia area farmers and businesses have been involved with others statewide in the giveaway of thousands of pounds of potatoes. It is an attempt to lower the surplus of potatoes, in hopes that it will eventually help stabilize and raise prices. Present prices of around \$1.00 per hundredweight are only about 20 percent of what farmers need to break even or make a profit, so instead of letting potatoes go to waste, the potatoes are being donated to charitable organizations or dumped onto fields as fertilizer. In December 2000, a company called the Potato Management Company (PMC) was formed to manage the massive surplus in Idaho this year. Growers commit to sell at least ten percent of their crop to PMC for a total of \$1, and they sign a one-year membership agreement with PMC paying \$500 for one share of voting stock. PMC takes control of the potatoes and they are marked, inspected, and the company or its agents will handle the disposal with the net cost, if any, charged to the grower. According to PMC, the surplus in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho is 30 million hundredweight more in storage than at this time last year. While this contribution will not make a large difference in the surplus, the Mini-Cassia area farmers are glad to be helping others and are working hard to ensure that the potatoes reach people in need.

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# SOUTHEAST IDAHO

BANNOCK, BEAR LAKE, BINGHAM, CARIBOU, FRANKLIN, ONEIDA, & POWER COUNTIES

## LABOR FORCE & EMPLOYMENT

Southeast Idaho Table 1 shows the Pocatello Metropolitan Statistical Area's (MSA) seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped two-tenths of a percentage point between December 2000 and January 2001. The January 2001 rate was 4.4 percent. The *Civilian Labor Force* grew by 120 individuals to 39,940 in January because students returned to the area and were looking for work. Increased employment opportunities in *Manufacturing, Retail Trade*, and *Services* drove the unemployment rate down from one year ago. Between January 2000 and January 2001, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate dropped 1.3 percentage points, falling from 5.7 percent in January 2000 to 4.4 percent in January 2001. Over the year, the number of individuals in the *Civilian Labor Force* increased by 790 but the number of individuals employed increased by 1,270, which drove the unemployment rate down.

*Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* decreased by 690 from December 2000 to January 2001. The sharp decline in jobs is normal in January because it falls between busy shopping, tourism, and construction seasons. Since holiday-related activities boost the number of jobs in December, the decrease in January is rather dramatic.

Jobs in *Goods-Producing Industries; Construction* and *Manufacturing* dropped by 210 in January 2001. Completion of several construction projects, such as the new Fred Meyer and Walgreen stores and Wal-Mart's expansion, and lack of new construction starts because of cold weather, drove construction jobs down by 160 in January. *Manufacturing* jobs declined by 50 but the decline was minimal and reflects normal seasonal change.

The *Service-Producing Industries* lost 480 jobs in January 2001. Losses were widespread, affecting every industry except *Government Education*, which gained 160 jobs. *Transportation, Communications & Utilities* dropped 90 jobs. *Motor Freight and Transportation by Air* jobs declined because the busy holiday season

Southeast Idaho Table 1: Labor Force & Employment  
Pocatello City MSA (Bannock County)

	Jan 2001*	Dec 2000	Jan 12000	% Change From Last Month	Last Year
INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE					
<b>Seasonally Adjusted</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	39,940	39,820	39,150	0.3%	2.0%
Unemployment	1,770	1,850	2,250	-4.3%	-21.3%
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.4	4.6	5.7		
Total Employment	38,170	37,970	36,900	0.5%	3.4%
<b>Unadjusted</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	40,490	41,110	39,650	-1.5%	2.1%
Unemployment	2,100	1,900	2,640	10.5%	-20.5%
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.2	4.7	6.7		
Total Employment	38,390	38,210	37,010	0.5%	3.7%
JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK					
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**</b>	32,590	33,280	32,320	-2.1%	0.8%
<b>Goods-Producing Industries</b>	4,390	4,600	4,310	-4.6%	1.9%
Mining & Construction	1,470	1,630	1,500	-9.8%	-2.0%
Manufacturing	2,920	2,970	2,810	-1.7%	3.9%
<b>Service-Producing Industries</b>	28,200	28,680	28,010	-1.7%	0.7%
Transportation, Comm., & Utilities	1,770	1,860	1,840	-4.8%	-3.8%
Wholesale Trade	1,390	1,410	1,470	-1.4%	-5.4%
Retail Trade	7,130	7,420	6,860	-3.9%	3.9%
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	1,440	1,460	1,440	-1.4%	0.0%
Services	7,820	7,940	7,590	-1.5%	3.0%
Government Administration	3,350	3,450	3,340	-2.9%	0.3%
Government Education	5,300	5,140	5,470	3.1%	-3.1%

\*Preliminary Estimate

\*\*Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month

was over. The loss of jobs in *Communications* was because of turnover in the industry and those jobs will likely be replaced in the future.

*Trade (Wholesale and Retail)* lost 310 jobs. Normal job losses for this time of the year occurred in *General Merchandise Stores, Food Stores, Eating and Drinking Establishments*, and *Miscellaneous Retail Stores*.

*Services* suffered 120 job losses, which occurred in *Hotels and Other Lodging Places* and *Business Services* because holiday travel ended, and temporary jobs for the holiday season ended.

*Government Administration* lost 120 jobs, because of seasonal-related adjustments in *Federal Government - Post Offices* and *Forest Service*, and in *Local Government - Administration*.

From one-year-ago, *Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* jumped by 270. The change in the number of jobs between January 2000 and January 2001 occurred primarily in *Manufacturing (110)*, *Retail Trade (270)*, and *Services (230)*. *Manufacturing* showed small increases in nearly every sector, but most growth occurred in *Food Processing* and *All Other Nondurable Goods*. *Retail Trade* growth occurred in *General Merchandise Stores* because Wal-Mart expanded and Fred Meyer opened their new Super Store.

*Services* increased in *Business Services, Social Services*, and *Engineering & Management Services*. The trend toward call centers and utilization of temporary staffing agencies contributed to increases in *Business Services*. In-

creased business activity and population contributed to job growth in *Social Services* over the year.

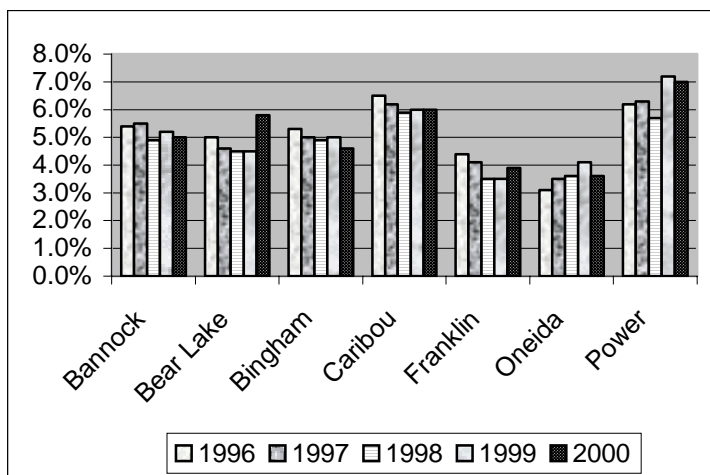
## SPECIAL TOPIC: AVERAGE ANNUAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Unemployment rates are based on several factors, one of which is the monthly survey of households. The rates are released on the first Friday of each month, except in February, when the release of the January unemployment rate is postponed for annual adjustments by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Labor force data, which includes Civilian Labor Force, Unemployment, Percent of Labor Force Unemployed (commonly referred to as the Unemployment Rate), and Employment, is released in Idaho on the first Friday as a forecast, then it is revised based on more input and released one month later as a revised rate. Labor force data is adjusted once a year using updated employment information. The annual 2000 adjustment occurred this month and the adjusted annual average unemployment rates for counties were released. Graph 1 shows adjusted unemployment rates by county for the past five years.

## AREA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

*Please note: Information contained in Economic Developments is obtained from area newspapers, local Job Service offices, trade publications, local area Chambers of Commerce publications, and other sources.*

Southeast Idaho Graph 1:  
Adjusted Unemployment Rates for Past 5 yrs



- As a part of the National Fire Plan, the Caribou-Targhee National Forest expects to hire approximately 60 new positions. Positions will be split between permanent and seasonal or temporary positions. The National Fire Plan was designed to increase firefighting readiness, restore burned areas, and reduce the risk of fire.
- A new business, B&L Doors, Windows, and Trim, has opened in Montpelier. The business is located at 829 Washington.
- J.E. Merit, the general contractor for Agrium's purified phosphate manufacturing project in Soda Springs, received OSHA's Star Award for safety compliance. The designation as an OSHA Star Facility is unique as the construction phase is expected to last just 18 months. Because of the difficulty and length of time it takes to qualify for the Star designation, it is unusual for the award to be given to a temporary project. Caribou County boasts the designation of the safest place in the world to work as nine of its businesses have received the prestigious award.
- Franklin County was featured on *The Late Show with David Letterman*. A production crew for the show spent time in Franklin County touring unique operations such as Ritewood Eggs in Preston, a potato operation in Weston, and filming unique geography in the area.
- Astaris (formerly FMC) laid off 21 workers at their Power County facility. The company shut down the operation of two of their four furnaces used in the production of elemental phosphorus because of the cost of power. The job reductions will most likely be permanent.
- Pocatello hosted the 2001 Simplot Games in February, the largest prep indoor track and field meet in the western United States. More than 2,000 athletes competed in the meet, which was held at Idaho State University's Holt Arena. For the second year, the Adidas Golden Spike Invitational, one of the top indoor track and field meets in the world for Olympic gold medalists and U.S. champions, was held in conjunction with the Simplot Games. The local chamber of commerce estimates the event brings a \$900,000 boost to the Pocatello economy.

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# NORTHEAST IDAHO

BONNEVILLE, BUTTE, CLARK, CUSTER, FREMONT, JEFFERSON, LEMHI, MADISON, & TETON COUNTIES

## LABOR FORCE & EMPLOYMENT

Northeast Idaho Table 1 shows that the January 2001 Bonneville Labor Market Area (LMA) seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased two-tenths of a percentage point from the previous month. The rate, at 3.8 percent, is also three-tenths of a percentage point lower than January of 2000. The LMA is seven-tenths of a percentage point lower than the state's rate of 4.5 percent and four-tenths of a percentage point lower than the national rate of 4.2 percent.

During the month of January, the *Civilian Labor Force* increased by 2,790 persons while total unemployed decreased by 60 persons. This affected total employment by an increase of 2,850 persons. Over the year, the *Civilian Labor Force* increased by 1,430 persons, with a decrease of 140 unemployed persons, or 4.3 percent. The yearly increase in the number of employed persons was 1,570.

Bonneville County held the lowest unemployment rate in the Bonneville LMA at 3.4 percent in January, followed by Jefferson, Bingham and Butte counties at 4.0, 4.6, and 4.9 percent, respectively. Idaho Falls, the largest city in the LMA, had an unemployment rate of 3.6 percent.

*Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* decreased by 910 jobs from December to January, for a total of 61,400 jobs in the LMA. The largest decreases came from *Retail Trade* (510 jobs – *General Merchandise* and *Eating & Drinking*) and *Construction* (230 jobs – mostly in *Special Trades*). These are the two industries that typically lose the most jobs at this time of year from seasonal changes due to holidays and weather. *Goods-Producing Industries* showed an overall change of the 230 jobs lost due to *Construction* as the other small losses and gains evened out. The *Service-Producing Industries* lost of 170 more jobs than the 510 jobs lost in *Retail Trade*. All other industries showed decreases with the exception of *Government Administration*.

A year-to-year comparison shows

Northeast Idaho Table 1: Labor Force & Employment  
Bonneville, Bingham, Butte, & Jefferson counties

	Jan 2001*	Dec 2000	Jan 2000	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
<b>INDIVIDUALS BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE</b>					
<b>Seasonally Adjusted</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	82,330	79,540	80,900	3.5	1.8
Unemployment	3,140	3,200	3,280	-1.9	-4.3
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.8	4.0	4.1		
Total Employment	79,190	76,340	77,620	3.7	2.0
<b>Unadjusted</b>					
Civilian Labor Force	80,600	78,710	79,240	2.4	1.7
Unemployment	3,800	3,090	3,920	23.0	-3.1
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.7	3.9	4.9		
Total Employment	76,810	75,620	75,320	1.6	2.0
<b>JOBS BY PLACE OF WORK</b>					
<b>Nonfarm Payroll Jobs**</b>	61,400	62,310	59,830	-1.5	2.6
<b>Goods-Producing Industries</b>	8,330	8,560	8,510	-2.7	-2.1
Mining & Construction	3,290	3,520	3,280	-6.5	0.3
Manufacturing	5,040	5,040	5,230	0.0	-3.6
Food Processing	2,730	2,670	2,900	2.2	-5.9
Ind. & Com. Mach. & Computer Equip.	460	470	530	-2.1	-13.2
All Other Manufacturing	1,850	1,900	1,800	-2.6	2.8
<b>Service-Producing Industries</b>	53,070	53,750	51,320	-1.3	3.4
Transportation, Comm., & Utilities	2,360	2,370	2,310	-0.4	2.2
Wholesale Trade	6,040	6,070	5,930	-0.5	1.9
Retail Trade	11,330	11,840	11,180	-4.3	1.3
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	1,880	1,890	1,850	-0.5	1.6
Services	21,170	21,250	20,180	-0.4	4.9
Government Administration	5,040	5,020	4,590	0.4	9.8
Government Education	5,250	5,310	5,280	-1.1	-0.6
*Preliminary Estimate					
**Full- or part-time jobs of people who worked for or received wages in the pay period including the 12th of the month					

*Nonfarm Payroll Jobs* increased by 2.6 percent, or 1,570 jobs, from January 2000. *Goods-Producing Industries* had an overall decrease of 180 jobs while *Service-Producing Industries* showed an increase of 1,750 jobs. *Construction* was the only major sector in *Goods-Producing Industries* to show an increase (10 jobs). *Manufacturing* lost almost 200 jobs from the previous January coming primarily from *Food Processing* as some higher technological updates have been implemented. Every industry in the *Service-Producing Industries* showed increases with the exception of a loss in 30 jobs from *Government Education*. Almost 1,000 jobs were gained in *Services* (470 from *Engineering & Management*, 180 from *Business Services*, 150 from *Social Services*, and 110 from *Ag Related*). *Government Administration (Local)* also had a large gain over the year.

## SPECIAL TOPIC: ANNUAL 2000 FIGURES

After benchmarking the most current figures, data for the year 2000 has been released to show that the *Civilian Labor Force* increased over the year in Clark, Custer, Jefferson, Madison, and Teton Counties. As seen in Northeast Table 2, information from the years of 1998 to 2000 is listed for each county. The largest increase was seen in Madison County with the addition of almost 500 workers from 1999 to 2000.. Jefferson added 230 and Teton

**Northeast Table 2: 2000 Annual  
Average Labor Force Data**

County	Civilian Labor Force			Unemployment Rate		
	2000	1999	1998	2000	1999	1998
<b>BINGHAM</b>	21,908	22,125	21,993	4.6	5.0	4.9
<b>BONNEVILLE</b>	46,478	46,706	46,473	3.4	3.6	3.5
<b>BUTTE</b>	1,596	1,630	1,628	3.7	3.9	4.2
<b>CLARK</b>	576	560	594	4.8	3.5	3.8
<b>CUSTER</b>	2,062	2,000	2,150	7.1	8.2	8.6
<b>FREMONT</b>	4,694	4,844	4,999	7.0	6.9	7.0
<b>JEFFERSON</b>	10,269	10,039	9,975	3.9	4.5	4.3
<b>LEMHI</b>	3,667	3,930	4,110	9.0	7.9	8.4
<b>MADISON</b>	11,021	10,539	10,262	2.5	2.6	2.8
<b>TETON</b>	3,314	3,114	2,954	3.1	3.5	3.6

County added 200. Losses were seen in the other five counties, with Lemhi losing the most, 263 workers, from the labor force. Bonneville was the next, losing 228 and Bingham lost 217 workers.

Over a two-year period, increases were seen in Bonneville, Jefferson, Madison and Teton Counties. Madison saw an increase of 759 workers, with Teton at 360 and Jefferson at 294 workers. Losses were seen in all of the other counties, with 443 workers in Lemhi County and 305 jobs in Fremont County. The *Civilian Labor Force* is a count of workers at their place of residence age 16 and older, non-institutionalized and non-military. The *Civilian Labor Force* is affected by several variables, such as retirees, new workforce entrants, and deaths. Teton County has seen tremendous growth from new entrants, as the population shows most of the growth is from migration rather than natural increase. Losses in Lemhi County came primarily from situations in the economy following mine layoffs and closures that have been prevalent for the past several years. Overall, the 10-county area experienced an increase of 100 workers from 1999 to 2000 and an increase of 450 workers over the two-year period.

#### **AREA DEVELOPMENTS: Bonneville County**

- American Eagle Outfitters (AE) opened a store in Idaho Falls' Grand Teton Mall earlier this month. The store covers 4,500 square feet. AE has been the official clothing provider to the television drama *Dawson's Creek* for the past two seasons. It features relaxed, versatile clothing. This is the third AE store to open in Idaho, and the 556<sup>th</sup> store nationwide.
- CableOne took over AT&T Broadband for an exchange of California locations and an undisclosed amount of monetary compensation. Along with the Idaho Falls market, the change affects the Rexburg, Pocatello, Blackfoot, Twin Falls, and Lewiston mar-

kets. The change occurred March 1, but the company does not expect programming or price changes in the immediate future. CableOne plans to continue with the \$12 million equipment upgrade started earlier in 2000 by AT&T. The company is still working out a franchise agreement with the city of Idaho Falls.

- Governor Kempthorne released funds of \$5 million from the state's INEEL settlement earlier this month for a new science and technology research center at University Place in Idaho Falls. Both the University of Idaho and Idaho State University, as well as the citizens of Eastern Idaho, will benefit from the 50,000 square foot center that has been discussed for over four years. Kempthorne's 23-member Science and Technology Advisory Council finalized the plans in January designed to create lucrative technology jobs and provide a more highly skilled work force. Rep. Lee Gagner, R-IdahoFalls, expects the center to employ 90 people at salaries of \$50,000 to \$80,000 per year. The ground breaking on this proposed world-class research facility is expected to take place in May.

#### **Jefferson County**

- Teton Outfitters of Rigby was named the Region VI Small Business of the Year by the Small Business Development Center in a February award ceremony. The company manufactures high-tech outerwear designed for the snowmobile market. Teton Outfitter's sales increased from \$22,000 to \$1.2 million from 1998 to 2000 and are expected to double their year 2000 figures this year. The company increased its sales force from 5 to 38 employees since 1998, and is expected to bring in an additional 65 employees as it moves all production in-house.

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## Work Opportunity Tax Credits in Idaho

by Judy Cardenas, Workforce Systems, Idaho Department of Labor

### IDAHO EMPLOYERS CAN REDUCE THEIR FEDERAL TAX LIABILITY

Two federal tax credit incentives encourage employers to hire job seekers most in need of on-the-job experience, the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) and the Welfare-to-Work Tax Credit (W2WTC).

The WOTC and the W2WTC are designed to help job seekers most in need of employment gain on-the-job experience and move towards economic self-sufficiency. This employer tax incentive is aimed at helping American workers and increasing American productivity and economic growth.

### WHAT IS THE WORK OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDIT?

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is a federal income tax credit that encourages employers to hire six groups of job seekers. The WOTC can reduce employer federal tax liability by as much as \$2,400 per new hire.

### WHAT NEW HIRES CAN QUALIFY EMPLOYERS FOR WOTC?

- Employers choose qualified new hires from one of six WOTC groups. There is no limit on the number of new hires!
- Welfare recipients -- members of a family that received cash welfare payments for a total of at least nine of the 18 months before date of hire (the nine months do not have to be consecutive months),
- 18-24 year-old food stamp recipients -- members of a family that received food stamps for at least six consecutive months before date of hire,
- Veterans who are members of a family that received food stamps for at least three consecutive months during the 15 months before date of hire,
- Vocational rehabilitation referrals served by an approved state agency or the US Dept of Veteran Affairs -- disabled persons who are completing, or have completed within the two years before hire, rehabilitative services under an employment plan approved by a state agency or the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs,

- Ex-felons who are members of a low-income family, and whose date of conviction or release is not more than 1 year prior to date of hire, and
- SSI recipients -- individuals who received Supplemental Security Income benefits for any month during the 60 days before date of hire

The WOTC credit for new hires employed 400 or more hours is 40% of qualified wages for the first year of employment; and the credit for new hires employed 120 to 400 hours is 25%. Qualified wages are capped at \$6,000 for all WOTC target groups. To be eligible, you must mail the required forms within 21 days of the employment start date.

### WHAT IS THE WELFARE-TO-WORK TAX CREDIT?

The Welfare-to-Work Tax Credit is a federal income tax credit that encourages employers to hire long-term welfare recipients. This tax credit can reduce employer federal tax liability by as much as \$8,500 per new hire. The Welfare-to-Work tax credit is administered under the Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) certification procedures and use the same forms.

### WHAT GROUPS OF NEW HIRES QUALIFY EMPLOYERS FOR THE W2WTC?

The new hires must be long-term welfare recipients, or members of a family that received cash welfare payments for at least the 18 consecutive months before date of hire.

The Welfare-to-Work Tax Credit for new hires employed 400 or more hours or 180 days is 35% of qualified wages for the first year of employment and 50% for the second year. Qualified wages are capped at \$10,000 per annum; they include tax-exempt amounts received under accident or health plans as well as educational assistance and dependent assistance programs. Timeliness is a critical factor in determining eligibility for this tax credit as well.

For detailed information or access to tax credit forms, visit our website at [www.labor.state.id.us/ui/wotcindx.htm](http://www.labor.state.id.us/ui/wotcindx.htm) or call (208) 334-6270. Email us at [wotc@labor.state.id.us](mailto:wotc@labor.state.id.us).

**APPENDIX A**  
**2000 BENCHMARKED CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE**  
**STATE OF IDAHO**  
**BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE**

LABOR FORCE	JAN 2000	FEB 2000	MAR 2000	APR 2000	MAY 2000	JUNE 2000
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	649,500	651,100	651,100	653,900	655,400	656,200
UNEMPLOYMENT	32,300	32,400	31,100	31,800	31,700	31,800
% LABOR FORCE UNEMPLOYED	5.0	5.0	4.8	4.9	4.8	4.8
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	617,200	618,700	620,000	622,100	623,700	624,400
UNADJUSTED CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	640,400	642,200	644,200	647,500	655,700	666,100
UNEMPLOYMENT	40,600	41,000	37,500	33,300	30,100	28,800
% LABOR FORCE UNEMPLOYED	6.3	6.4	5.8	5.1	4.6	4.3
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	599,800	601,200	606,700	614,200	625,600	637,300
U. S. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED RATE	4.0	4.1	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.0

LABOR FORCE	JULY 2000	AUG 2000	SEP 2000	OCT 2000	NOV 2000	DEC 2000	AA 2000
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	658,000	659,700	661,500	663,300	665,300	667,100	
UNEMPLOYMENT	32,000	31,700	32,000	31,900	32,200	32,000	
% LABOR FORCE UNEMPLOYED	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	626,000	628,000	629,500	631,400	633,100	635,100	
UNADJUSTED CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	669,100	667,900	665,000	664,600	665,800	664,000	658,000
UNEMPLOYMENT	28,300	28,600	26,100	26,000	29,400	33,300	32,000
% LABOR FORCE UNEMPLOYED	4.2	4.3	3.9	3.9	4.4	5.0	4.9
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	640,800	639,300	638,900	638,600	636,400	630,700	626,000
U. S. SEASONALLY ADJUSTED RATE	4.0	4.1	3.9	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0



## APPENDIX B

### 2000 BENCHMARKED ANNUAL AVERAGE LABOR FORCE DATA

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	UNEMP	PERCENT UNEMP	TOTAL EMPL
<b>COUNTIES</b>				
ADA	170,914	5,070	3.0	165,844
ADAMS	1,625	211	13.0	1,415
BANNOCK	39,502	1,969	5.0	37,533
BEAR LAKE	2,831	165	5.8	2,666
BENEWAH	4,443	553	12.4	3,891
BINGHAM	21,908	1,012	4.6	20,896
BLAINE	11,327	373	3.3	10,955
BOISE	2,343	167	7.1	2,176
BONNER	17,396	1,560	9.0	15,836
BONNEVILLE	46,478	1,558	3.4	44,921
BOUNDARY	4,465	386	8.6	4,080
BUTTE	1,596	59	3.7	1,537
CAMAS	406	16	4.0	390
CANYON	65,365	2,945	4.5	62,420
CARIBOU	3,083	186	6.0	2,897
CASSIA	9,548	595	6.2	8,953
CLARK	576	28	4.8	549
CLEARWATER	3,936	564	14.3	3,372
CUSTER	2,062	147	7.1	1,916
ELMORE	9,163	556	6.1	8,607
FRANKLIN	4,712	182	3.9	4,530
FREMONT	4,694	328	7.0	4,366
GEM	6,237	363	5.8	5,874
GOODING	6,585	254	3.9	6,330
IDAHO	6,116	626	10.2	5,491
JEFFERSON	10,269	396	3.9	9,873
JEROME	8,878	396	4.5	8,483
KOOTENAI	55,717	4,141	7.4	51,576
LATAH	15,164	523	3.4	14,641
LEMHI	3,667	330	9.0	3,337
LEWIS	1,524	117	7.7	1,407
LINCOLN	1,832	89	4.9	1,743
MADISON	11,021	272	2.5	10,749
MINIDOKA	9,723	703	7.2	9,019
NEZ PERCE	22,687	947	4.2	21,740
ONEIDA	1,703	62	3.6	1,641
OWYHEE	4,251	178	4.2	4,073
PAYETTE	9,988	690	6.9	9,298
POWER	3,543	247	7.0	3,297
SHOSHONE	6,548	725	11.1	5,823
TETON	3,314	104	3.1	3,210
TWIN FALLS	31,891	1,414	4.4	30,477
VALLEY	4,107	320	7.8	3,787
WASHINGTON	4,575	392	8.6	4,183
ASOTIN WA	11,801	537	4.5	11,264
STATE OF IDAHO	657,712	31,914	4.9	625,798
<b>LABOR MARKET AREAS</b>				
BOISE CITY MSA	236,278	8,015	3.4	228,264
BONNEVILLE LMA	80,252	3,025	3.8	77,227
CASSIA-MINIDOKA LMA	19,270	1,298	6.7	17,972
IDAHO-LEWIS LMA	7,640	742	9.7	6,898
MAGIC VALLEY LMA	47,353	2,063	4.4	45,290
PANHANDLE LMA	88,570	7,365	8.3	81,205
SEAPORT LMA	34,487	1,483	4.3	33,004
<b>IDAHO CITIES</b>				
BOISE	108,177	3,174	2.9	105,004
COEUR D' ALENE	19,668	1,121	5.7	18,547
IDAHO FALLS	28,702	1,004	3.5	27,698
LEWISTON	19,356	707	3.7	18,649
NAMPA	19,966	968	4.8	18,998
POCATELLO	28,283	1,388	4.9	26,894
TWIN FALLS	16,683	776	4.6	15,907

**APPENDIX C: 2000 BENCHMARKED NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS - STATE OF IDAHO - BY PLACE OF WORK**

	Jan-00	Feb-00	Mar-00	Apr-00	May-00	Jun-00	Jul-00
NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS	533,245	537,441	543,913	553,096	561,828	568,634	565,376
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	108,986	109,113	110,152	112,715	115,382	119,164	119,317
MINING	2,259	2,260	2,301	2,366	2,513	2,635	2,642
METAL MINING	1,290	1,277	1,303	1,245	1,252	1,272	1,286
CONSTRUCTION	31,013	30,897	32,133	34,575	36,176	38,207	38,702
MANUFACTURING	75,714	75,956	75,718	75,774	76,693	78,322	77,973
DURABLE GOODS	47,119	47,214	46,909	46,979	47,636	48,651	48,670
LUMBER & WOODS PRODUCTS	12,993	12,818	12,316	12,028	12,478	13,108	12,988
LOGGING CAMPS & CONTRACTORS	2,353	2,270	1,703	1,444	1,802	2,404	2,436
SAWMILLS & PLANING MILLS	4,822	4,787	4,769	4,889	4,913	4,969	4,938
WOOD BUILDING & MOBILE HOMES	1,393	1,321	1,343	1,375	1,394	1,350	1,283
OTHER LUMBER	4,425	4,440	4,501	4,320	4,369	4,385	4,331
STONE, CLAY, GLASS CONCRETE PRODUCTS	1,323	1,346	1,418	1,432	1,455	1,485	1,506
FAB STRUCTURE METAL PRODUCTS	3,027	3,009	2,999	3,054	3,006	3,014	3,014
MACHINERY, EXC. ELECTRICAL	10,171	10,232	10,237	10,308	10,374	10,477	10,582
ELECT & ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT & SUP	13,544	13,641	13,658	13,760	13,867	14,133	14,241
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT	2,398	2,447	2,535	2,594	2,615	2,589	2,599
OTHER DURABLES	3,663	3,721	3,746	3,803	3,841	3,845	3,740
NONDURABLES	28,595	28,742	28,809	28,795	29,057	29,671	29,303
FOOD & KINDRED PRODUCTS	16,931	16,996	16,927	16,898	17,006	17,446	17,091
CANNED, CURED & FROZEN FOODS	9,515	9,590	9,602	9,558	9,753	10,081	9,782
PAPER & ALLIED PRODUCTS	2,244	2,255	2,249	2,256	2,247	2,324	2,334
PRINTING, PUBLISHING & ALLIED PRODUCTS	5,153	5,216	5,304	5,393	5,415	5,421	5,438
CHEMICALS & ALLIED PRODUCTS	2,276	2,278	2,291	2,247	2,348	2,398	2,344
OTHER NONDURABLE GOODS	1,991	1,997	2,038	2,001	2,041	2,082	2,096
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	424,259	428,328	433,761	440,381	446,446	449,470	446,059
TRANS., COMMUN., & PUBLIC UTILITIES	27,030	27,223	27,444	27,380	27,726	28,206	28,009
TRANSPORTATION	17,063	17,050	16,844	16,930	17,125	17,490	17,221
RAILROAD	1,465	1,465	1,465	1,465	1,465	1,465	1,440
TRUCKING & WAREHOUSING	10,102	10,114	9,887	9,866	10,042	10,427	10,302
COMMUNICATION	6,120	6,335	6,676	6,425	6,616	6,649	6,698
ELECTRICAL, GAS & SANITARY SERVICES	3,847	3,838	3,924	4,025	3,985	4,067	4,090
TRADE	134,902	134,548	136,260	138,701	140,365	142,649	143,711
WHOLESALE TRADE	32,039	32,020	32,421	32,770	32,931	33,190	33,091
DURABLE GOODS	14,797	14,903	15,108	15,276	15,434	15,579	15,533
NONDURABLE GOODS	17,242	17,117	17,313	17,494	17,497	17,611	17,558
RETAIL TRADE	102,863	102,528	103,839	105,931	107,434	109,459	110,619
BLDG. MAT., HRDWR., GRDN. SUP. ETC.	5,792	5,835	6,352	6,946	7,079	7,127	7,085
GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORES	11,392	11,096	11,067	11,394	11,643	11,697	12,218
FOOD STORES	19,098	19,153	19,050	19,258	19,544	20,041	20,283
AUTO. DEALERS & GAS SRVC. STATIONS	11,648	11,665	11,781	11,983	12,180	12,309	12,309
EATING & DRINKING PLACES	35,666	35,862	36,535	37,331	37,722	38,741	39,074
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	23,401	23,352	23,305	23,371	23,548	23,746	23,711
BANKING	7,299	7,321	7,295	7,276	7,269	7,223	7,269
SERVICE & MISCELLANEOUS	133,865	135,390	137,996	140,918	141,342	145,441	146,558
HOTEL & OTHER LODGING PLACES	7,702	7,781	7,914	8,043	7,955	9,129	9,285
PERSONAL SERVICES	4,336	4,421	4,416	4,625	4,346	4,276	4,163
BUSINESS SERVICES	25,722	25,532	26,692	27,223	28,353	29,309	30,060
AMUS. & REC. SVCS., EXC. MOTION PIC.	6,215	6,438	6,501	7,292	6,906	7,532	8,168
HEALTH SERVICES	34,698	34,941	35,208	35,306	35,393	35,784	35,935
HOSPITALS	11,415	11,486	11,578	11,512	11,548	11,629	11,693
ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT SERVICES	16,849	17,283	17,381	17,365	17,424	17,991	17,980
GOVERNMENT	105,061	107,815	108,756	110,011	113,465	109,428	104,070
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	12,036	11,999	12,335	14,074	17,493	15,320	15,463
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	93,025	95,816	96,421	95,937	95,972	94,108	88,607
STATE GOVERNMENT	27,014	28,734	28,828	29,081	28,575	26,818	26,587
EDUCATION	12,383	14,075	14,094	14,130	13,608	11,629	11,386
ADMINISTRATION	14,631	14,659	14,734	14,951	14,967	15,189	15,201
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	66,011	67,082	67,593	66,856	67,397	67,290	62,020
EDUCATION	37,406	38,453	38,749	38,545	38,557	37,366	31,851
ADMINISTRATION	28,605	28,629	28,844	28,311	28,840	29,924	30,169

**(CONT.) APP. C: 2000 BENCHMARKED NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS - STATE OF IDAHO - BY PLACE OF WORK**

	Aug-00	Sep-00	Oct-00	Nov-00	Dec-00	AA-00
NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS	568,487	573,941	573,190	571,549	569,574	560,023
GOODS PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	119,785	119,274	118,359	117,321	114,607	115,348
MINING	2,617	2,582	2,566	2,519	2,452	2,476
METAL MINING	1,261	1,241	1,229	1,199	1,204	1,255
CONSTRUCTION	39,674	39,451	38,602	37,492	35,640	36,047
MANUFACTURING	77,494	77,241	77,192	77,310	76,515	76,825
DURABLE GOODS	48,255	47,817	47,525	47,767	47,466	47,667
LUMBER & WOODS PRODUCTS	12,432	12,175	11,876	11,834	11,414	12,372
LOGGING CAMPS & CONTRACTORS	2,291	2,218	2,209	2,198	2,041	2,114
SAWMILLS & PLANING MILLS	4,651	4,593	4,354	4,394	4,364	4,704
WOOD BUILDING & MOBILE HOMES	1,286	1,256	1,203	1,121	1,072	1,283
OTHER LUMBER	4,204	4,108	4,110	4,121	3,937	4,271
STONE, CLAY, GLASS CONCRETE PRODUCTS	1,508	1,490	1,497	1,518	1,492	1,456
FAB STRUCTURE METAL PRODUCTS	3,050	3,071	3,061	3,050	3,041	3,033
MACHINERY, EXC. ELECTRICAL	10,595	10,456	10,437	10,492	10,501	10,405
ELECT & ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT & SUP	14,494	14,582	14,662	14,885	15,088	14,213
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT	2,455	2,353	2,315	2,300	2,232	2,453
OTHER DURABLES	3,721	3,690	3,677	3,688	3,698	3,736
NONDURABLES	29,239	29,424	29,667	29,543	29,049	29,158
FOOD & KINDRED PRODUCTS	17,079	17,418	17,684	17,510	17,005	17,166
CANNED, CURED & FROZEN FOODS	9,679	10,003	9,688	9,465	9,293	9,667
PAPER & ALLIED PRODUCTS	2,222	2,144	2,161	2,162	2,173	2,231
PRINTING, PUBLISHING & ALLIED PRODUCTS	5,473	5,474	5,475	5,536	5,556	5,404
CHEMICALS & ALLIED PRODUCTS	2,341	2,343	2,324	2,299	2,307	2,316
OTHER NONDURABLE GOODS	2,124	2,045	2,023	2,036	2,008	2,040
SERVICE PRODUCING INDUSTRIES	448,702	454,667	454,830	454,228	454,967	444,675
TRANS., COMMUN., & PUBLIC UTILITIES	28,327	28,375	28,694	28,373	28,091	27,907
TRANSPORTATION	17,524	17,723	18,133	17,751	17,514	17,364
RAILROAD	1,440	1,440	1,441	1,440	1,440	1,453
TRUCKING & WAREHOUSING	10,401	10,493	10,739	10,443	10,200	10,251
COMMUNICATION	6,725	6,640	6,550	6,618	6,710	6,564
ELECTRICAL, GAS & SANITARY SERVICES	4,078	4,012	4,011	4,004	3,867	3,979
TRADE	145,705	146,152	145,177	146,700	147,775	141,887
WHOLESALE TRADE	33,209	33,748	33,880	33,904	33,897	33,092
DURABLE GOODS	15,685	15,866	15,823	15,795	15,890	15,474
NONDURABLE GOODS	17,524	17,883	18,056	18,109	18,008	17,618
RETAIL TRADE	112,497	112,404	111,297	112,796	113,877	108,795
BLDG. MAT., HRDWR., GRDN. SUP. ETC.	7,057	6,818	6,791	6,599	6,472	6,663
GENERAL MERCHANDISE STORES	13,440	13,617	13,926	15,112	15,399	12,667
FOOD STORES	20,100	20,098	20,097	20,140	20,174	19,753
AUTO. DEALERS & GAS SRVC. STATIONS	12,307	12,299	12,163	12,112	12,004	12,063
EATING & DRINKING PLACES	39,542	39,494	37,964	37,558	37,780	37,772
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	23,849	23,662	23,620	23,662	23,779	23,584
BANKING	7,337	7,268	7,274	7,252	7,267	7,279
SERVICE & MISCELLANEOUS	148,386	148,005	145,887	144,911	145,368	142,839
HOTEL & OTHER LODGING PLACES	9,380	8,878	8,041	7,519	7,834	8,288
PERSONAL SERVICES	4,202	4,273	4,249	4,261	4,317	4,324
BUSINESS SERVICES	30,778	30,657	30,818	30,601	30,661	28,867
AMUS. & REC. SVCS., EXC. MOTION PIC.	8,259	7,589	6,317	5,698	6,395	6,943
HEALTH SERVICES	36,365	36,402	36,119	36,337	36,566	35,755
HOSPITALS	11,745	11,775	11,600	11,667	11,724	11,614
ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT SERVICES	18,189	18,217	18,424	18,776	18,466	17,862
GOVERNMENT	102,434	108,473	111,453	110,582	109,954	108,459
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	15,549	14,417	13,898	13,354	12,820	14,063
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	86,885	94,056	97,555	97,228	97,134	94,395
STATE GOVERNMENT	26,693	28,215	29,362	28,864	28,646	28,118
EDUCATION	11,469	12,926	14,409	14,367	14,148	13,219
ADMINISTRATION	15,224	15,289	14,953	14,497	14,498	14,899
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	60,192	65,841	68,193	68,364	68,488	66,277
EDUCATION	30,270	35,964	39,179	39,614	39,563	37,126
ADMINISTRATION	29,922	29,877	29,014	28,750	28,925	29,151

**APPENDIX D**  
**1999 - 2000 BENCHMARKED NONFARM PAYROLL JOBS**  
**STATE OF IDAHO**  
**BY PLACE OF WORK**  
**ANNUAL AVERAGE**

	1999	2000	%Change
Nonfarm Payroll Jobs	538,886	560,023	3.9
Goods-Producing Industries	113,725	115,348	1.4
Mining	2,565	2,476	-3.5
Metal Mining	1,410	1,255	-11.0
Construction	34,875	36,047	3.4
Manufacturing	76,285	76,825	0.7
Durable Goods	47,183	47,667	1.0
Lumber & Wood Products	13,402	12,372	-7.7
Logging	2,424	2,114	-12.8
Sawmills & Planing Mills	4,754	4,704	-1.1
Wood Buildings & Mobile Homes	1,680	1,283	-24.1
Other Lumber & Wood Products	4,534	4,271	-5.8
Stone, Clay, Glass & Concrete Products	1,500	1,456	-2.9
Fabricated Metal Products, exc. Machinery & Transportation Equip.	3,028	3,033	0.2
Industrial & Commercial Machinery & Computer Equipment	10,192	10,405	2.1
Electronic & Other Electrical Equip. & Components, Exc., Computer	12,993	14,213	9.4
Transportation Equipment	2,461	2,453	-0.3
Other Durable Goods	3,608	3,736	3.5
Nondurable Goods	29,102	29,158	0.2
Food Processing	17,389	17,166	-1.3
Canned, Frozen, & Preserved Fruits, Vegetables & Food Specialties	10,060	9,667	-3.9
Paper Products	2,253	2,231	-1.0
Printing, Publishing & Allied Products	5,150	5,404	4.9
Chemicals & Allied Products	2,304	2,316	0.5
Other Nondurable Goods	2,304	2,040	-11.5
Service-Producing Industries	425,161	444,675	4.6
Transportation, Communications, & Utilities	26,804	27,907	4.1
Transportation	17,018	17,364	2.0
Railroad	1,453	1,453	0.0
Motor Freight Transportation & Warehousing	9,962	10,251	2.9
Communications	5,849	6,564	12.2
Electric, Gas, & Sanitary Services	3,937	3,979	1.1
Trade	136,193	141,887	4.2
Wholesale Trade	32,131	33,092	3.0
Durable Goods	14,541	15,474	6.4
Nondurable Goods	17,590	17,618	0.2
Retail Trade	104,061	108,795	4.5
Building Materials, Hardware, Garden Supply & Manuf. Home Dealers	6,424	6,663	3.7
General Merchandise Stores	11,337	12,667	11.7
Food Stores	19,139	19,753	3.2
Automotive Dealers & Gasoline Service Stations	11,985	12,063	0.7
Eating & Drinking Places	36,220	37,772	4.3

# Glossary of Labor Market Terms

**Agriculture Employment:** Persons on agriculture payrolls who work or receive pay for any period during the survey week. This includes owners, operators, unpaid family members who work at least 15 hours a week, and hired laborers.

**Average Hourly Earnings/Average Weekly Hours:** The average total money earnings earned by production or non-supervisory workers for selected industries. The average number of hours worked by production or non-supervisory workers including overtime, paid vacation, and sick leave. The data is collected for the week including the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**Average Weekly Earnings:** Average Hourly Earnings multiplied by Average Weekly Hours.

**Civilian Labor Force:** A count of non-institutional persons 16 years of age and over residing within a specific geographic area, excluding members of armed forces, who are classified as employed, unemployed and seeking employment, or involved in a labor dispute.

**Consumer Price Index (CPI):** A national index measuring changes over time in the price of a fixed market basket of goods and services. There are two indexes—the All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) represents the buying habits of about 80 percent of the non-institutional population of the United States, and the Urban Wage & Clerical Workers (CPI-W) represents 40 percent of the population.

**Covered Employers:** Employers who are subject to state and federal Unemployment Insurance laws.

**Durable Goods:** Also known as “hard goods” because they include items manufactured or provided by wholesalers with a normal life expectancy of three years or more.

**Employed:** Individuals, 16 years of age or older, who worked at least 1 hour for pay or profit or worked at least 15 unpaid hours in a family business during the week including the 12<sup>th</sup> day of the month. Individuals are also counted as employed if they had a job but did not work because they were: ill, on vacation, in a labor dispute, prevented from working because of bad weather, or temporarily absent for similar reasons.

**Initial Claim:** Any notice of unemployment filed to request (1) a determination of entitlement to and eligibility for compensation or (2) a second or subsequent period of unemployment within a benefit year or period of eligibility.

**Labor Market Area (LMA):** An area that consists of a central city or cities and the surrounding territory within commuting distance. It is an economically integrated geographic area within which individuals can reside and find employment without changing place of residence. Idaho has nine LMAs.

**Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA):** An area that has either a city with a population of at least 50,000 or a Bureau of Census urbanized area of at least 50,000 and a total metropolitan area of at least 100,000. The Office of Management and Budget designates the MSAs. There are two MSAs in Idaho—Boise City (including Ada and Canyon counties) and Pocatello City (including Bannock County).

**Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment:** Persons on non-farm establishment payrolls (including employees on paid sick leave, paid holiday, or paid vacation) who work or receive pay for any part of the week including the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month. It is a count of jobs by place of work. It does not include self-employed, unpaid volunteer or family workers, domestic workers in households, military personnel and persons who are laid off, on leave without pay, or on strike for the entire reference period.

**Nondurable Goods:** Also known as “soft goods” because they include items manufactured or provided by wholesalers that generally last for only a short period of time (three years or less).

**Seasonally Adjusted:** Data is seasonally adjusted to remove the impact of regular events that occur at the same time every year such as the effect of cold weather on outdoor activities, the Christmas holiday, or the summer influx of youth into the labor market.

**Unemployed:** Those individuals, 16 years of age or older, who do not have a job but are available for work and actively seeking work during the week including the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month. The only exceptions to these criteria are individuals who are waiting to be recalled from a layoff and individuals waiting to report to a new job within 30 days—these, too, are considered unemployed.

**Unemployment Insurance:** Unemployment Insurance is a program for the accumulation of funds paid by employers, to be used for the payment of Unemployment Insurance to workers during periods of unemployment which are beyond their control.

**Unemployment Rate:** The number of persons unemployed expressed as a percentage of the labor force.

**Weekly Benefit Amount:** The amount payable to a claimant for a compensable week of total unemployment.

**Weeks Claimed:** The number of weeks that unemployed workers claimed Unemployment Insurance benefits.

**Weeks Compensated:** The number of weeks for which compensation was actually paid.

# IDAHO EMPLOYMENT

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